The Beehive

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Joining in the nation's annual day of service known as Make a Difference Day, Latter-day Saints across Arizona worked with other community members and members of other faiths to reach out to servicemen, elderly and others in need and to complete cleanup and beautification projects.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

The Valencia Branch (Spanish speaking), Citrus Heights Stake, works on a beautification project with branch members (l to r) Gonzalo Olivas, Erick Luna, Kevin Reta, and Bryan Culross.

Photo by John Power, Biltmore Photo

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John Power, Biltmore Photo

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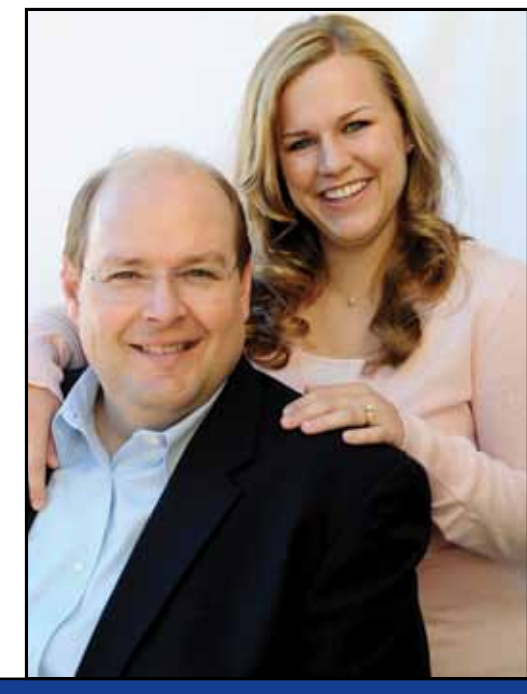

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Latter-day Saints Help Make a Difference with

National Day of Service

Young people from the Citrus Heights Stake offer service with a smile as they participate in their stake's Make a Difference Day project.

Photo by John Power, Biltmore Photo

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Latter-day Saints across the country—whether challenged by their stake leaders or acting on their own volition—find October's National "Make a Difference" Day a great time to join with ward members and other faith and community groups in a day of service.

Created more than 20 years ago by USA Weekend Magazine, Make a Difference Day is a national day of service, a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. The annual event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each October.

This October, valleywide, Latter-day Saints reached out in Christ-like warmth and caring, while making a difference with a wide range of projects and impressive participation. Some service endeavors were repeats from years past, some were pursued as Eagle Scout projects, some focused on community-wide clean up and still others blessed the elderly and those serving in the military.

The City of Mesa had outlined 75 different projects and expected more than 1500 volunteers to participate in various beautification and cleanup projects.

Claudia Walters, Executive Vice President of Mesa United Way and a member of the Hillside Ward, Mesa Arizona Lehi Stake, says one Mesa project not only became an Eagle Scout project for a member of her

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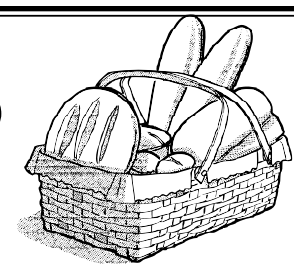

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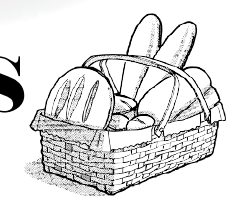

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National Day of Service
Continued from pg. 4

ward, but was the ward's Make a Difference Day project as well.

Working with community leaders, Dallan Larson organized and directed the 80 people who contributed a total of 428-man hours to dismantle, move and reassemble Helen's Hope Chest in a new location. Helen's Hope Chest, Sister Walters says, is a boutique for children living in foster families.

"They are able to shop for clothes, shoes, backpacks, books and hygiene items at low or no cost," she says.

"Since the state cut funding in 2008 for foster families, they have to pay for more and more from their own pockets. Often there is not enough to cover the cost of additional children in the home. People who are providing foster care need the support of the community."

Sister Walters says relocating Helen's Hope Chest to its current location was a necessity, in order to keep costs down and thus continue to help the thousands of children in foster care.

"Helen's Hope Chest means so much to the people it serves," she says. She says one girl, after shopping at the boutique said, "They treated me like I'm somebody special;" and one grandmother who is raising her four grandchildren said, "For the first time, I don't feel like I'm all alone."

(See http://www.mesaunitedway.org/helens-hope-chest-1 or call 480-969-5411.)

Victor Peterson, a Gilbert town councilman and member of the Allen Ranch Ward, Gilbert Greenfield Stake, says, in his town, Latter-day Saints joined in Gilbert's ongoing community-wide effort called "For Our City Gilbert. (See Care-inc.org.)

"We had 17 projects—some pretty aggressive—and we did everything we set out to do," Brother Peterson says.

More than 650 volunteers turned out to do projects that ranged from repainting a map of the United States on the play area floor at Islands Elementary, cooking a home-style lunch for the fire station personnel, painting a block wall at Freestone Park and helping with landscaping and general cleanup at Gilbert's Riparian Preserve.

At the House of Refuge on Power Road, "We used 80 gallons of paint and residents joined us, to paint that transition housing," Councilman Peterson says.

They also helped with a project at the Boys and Girls Club, painted the

Continued on pg. 6

Participating in a project overseen by Rudy Ramos, other members of the Valencia Branch (Spanish-speaking) of the Citrus Heights Stake, including (l to r) Fortino Coronel, Omar Robles, Jorge Alvarez worked to clean up and make a woman's backyard play area safe for her grandchild.

Photo by John Power, Biltmore Photo

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National Day of Service
Continued from pg. 5

"portables" at two schools and painted the inside main hall at Sonoma Ranch Elementary. Volunteers helped clean up a sports field adjacent to the Rock Church of the East Valley.

In addition, at one of the LDS Church buildings in Gilbert, Latter-day Saints and members of other faiths came together to make a total of 410 cards and 300 placemats for senior citizens in the community as well as 84 letters to individuals in the military.

"It felt good to do a project like that," says Maureen Saurey, also of the Allen Ranch Ward, and the Gilbert Greenfield Stake Humanitarian Specialist, who headed up the project. She says, "Many were LDS, but a lot from other faiths came too."

"We had young people who came with their mothers and a group from Grace Life Church came with scissors, supplies and everything," Sister Saurey says.

"Service is a win-win, nobody loses. The giver, the receiver, the taxpayer all win." Brother Peterson says. He adds that after the projects were completed, "I got just as many thank-you's from volunteers as from those who were on the receiving end. They were grateful for the opportunity to do it."

"We reached out to all sectors of the community—the business community, government, churches. We found 85 or more percent of the volunteers came from the faith community," Brother Peterson says.

In the Mesa Alma Stake, Tara Greer helped organize members of the Amberwood Ward, to complete 40 neighborhood cleanup projects. "We went to homes right around our church building and did yard work for whoever needed it. We cut down small trees, pulled weeds and did cleanup."

Tara says most of the recipients were not Church members, several were single mothers. "It really made a difference to all of them to have this done and they were very grateful."

She says it meant a lot to the volunteers as well. "Some didn't want to leave. They had a good experience," Sister Greer says.

Several members of the Mesa Alma Stake worked to paint 35 10-foot sections of fence on Broadway road near Lindsay.

Three wards in the Mesa Alma Stake—the Kleinman Park, Dobson and Woodglen Park wards--held food drives, collecting a combined total of more than two tons of non-perishable food items for Mesa United Food Bank.

Randy McDowell, of the Kleinman Ward, says their ward was doing the project for its second year.

"United Food Bank's 'Food Fact Sheet' lists Arizona as tied with the worst state in the nation for 'food insecurity.' Basically what this means is that one in four children in Arizona do not know ehre they are going to get their next meal," Brother McDowell says. "The food bank can always use food. They showed us their shelves this year and they were 90 percent empty."

Photo by John Power, Biltmore Photo

In Arizona, Latter-day Saints of all ages--including (l to r) Saran Reed, Laynee Johnson and Renee Reed of the Avalon Ward, Citrus Heights Stake, joined with other members of the community to celebrate a national day of service in October.

He says their ward had 45 family groups participate. They distributed flyers and bags provided by United Food Bank, then went back the following week gather the bags filled with donated food items.

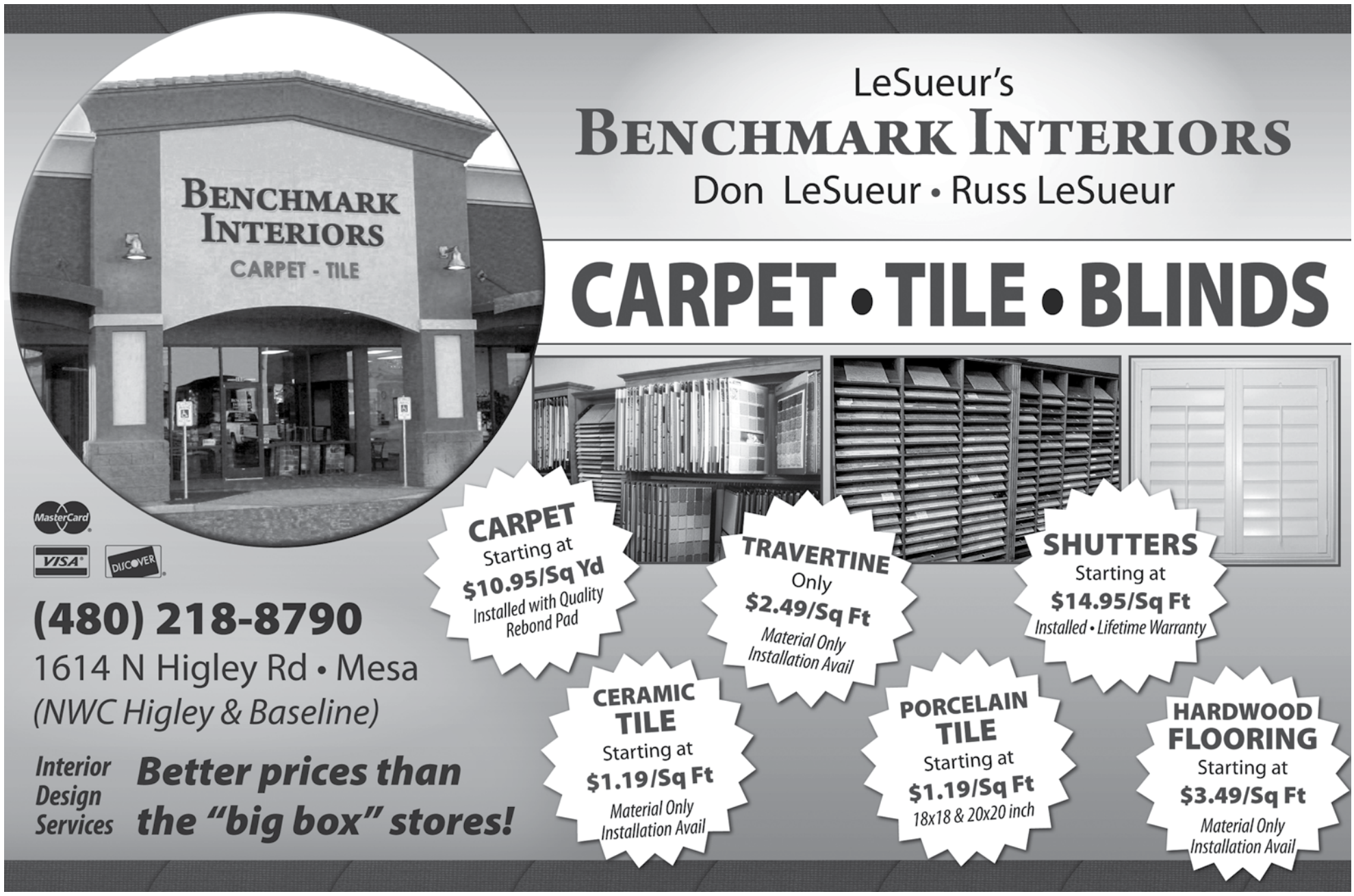
"It's a great project that families—even with young children—can participate in," he says.

Ray Snyder, a member of the stake high council in the Mesa Alma Stake, says another great example of service came from the Valencia Branch, a Spanish-speaking branch in the stake, who did cleanup and repairs around a woman's home.

"The point man for the project was Rudy Ramos, and he deserves a lot of credit," Brother Snyder says.

Rudy says the work to help provide a place in the yard where the woman's grandson could safely play was well worth it.

"She was so happy and it made us feel so good," Brother Ramos says.



Former Bishop now Serves as

Only LDS Hospice CHAPLAIN in the Valley

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Photo courtesy Bruce Perkins

Bruce Perkins, a former bishop and owner of a concrete company, changed careers when the economy went bad and now serves as the only LDS Hospice Chaplain in Maricopa County.

Bruce Perkins taught school and then worked in the construction industry as the owner of a concrete company. Yet, when the economy fell apart, it wasn't either of his past career paths that made it possible for Bruce to find a new job—a job he loves and one that is uniquely his.

Instead, it was Bruce's past Church calling and a coincidental meeting that led to his current position as the only LDS hospice chaplain in the Valley.

"I had closed the doors at my company," Bruce explains; but, with a family to provide for, including a son who had just been called on a mission, Bruce took whatever side jobs he could find. One of those was pouring concrete at the home of man who was the regional director of a small hospice. "He mentioned, 'The hospice I work for needs a chaplain, I don't suppose you know of anyone who meets the qualifications.'"

As a former bishop of the Windsor Ward, Gilbert Val Vista Stake, Bruce was able to present the necessary paperwork to show that he was a "qualified spiritual counselor," and, based on that, was hired as a hospice chaplain. After a short time, Bruce left that position and went to work as the bereavement coordinator and one of four chaplains with Hospice of the Southwest.

"We all are nondenominational, and we tailor our services to the needs of the clients," Bruce says. However, "Hospice of the Southwest is happy to let people know they have an LDS chaplain who can address the needs of the LDS population."

He says the company is a community-based, patient- and family-centered group that has 150 and 200 patients at a time. "They don't want to get so big that they fail to recognize the individual," Brother Perkins says.

He says his work is very much like the home teaching and bishopric responsibilities he's had in the past. "I start my morning by going through and taking care of bereavement issues, writing cards to offer condolences and things like that. Then, I go out and visit patients. I spend the rest of the day visiting, holding patients' hands or having prayer with them. Two to three times a month, I take my LDS patients a gospel doctrine message or go through a General Conference talk with them."

Occasionally, family members will ask him to assist in giving priesthood blessings. "One of the most special experiences I've had," Brother Perkins

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Stake President Works as Farmer of

Potatoes & Boys

By Cindy R. Williams
The Beehive

Photo by Joanna Layton

Through his family-owned potato shipping business, David Layton, stake president of the Gilbert Greenfield Stake, helps young men to earn money for their missions.

David Layton, stake president of the Gilbert Greenfield Stake, is a farmer by trade. Along with shipping potatoes all over the United States and Canada, his family-owned business also provides job opportunities for young men to earn money for their missions.

"Growing a crop of potatoes is about a 10-month process," says President Layton. "We harvest from late April to mid-July. At harvest time, the plant runs on average 18 hours per day."

Several varieties of their potatoes are marketed under the "Green Giant Fresh" label.

President Layton says, "We hire young men once school gets out until the first of July. They work six days a week, 6:30 on Monday until we finish on Saturday."

"I have about eight young men that I hire for the entire season which is seven to nine weeks," says President Layton.

He explains, "A few years ago I attended a Little Philmont Scout Training where President Dalquist spoke to the Scout leaders. He said that two important opportunities that young men need to help prepare them for a mission are 'an away-from-home experience and an opportunity to learn how to work hard.'"

"Since our harvest begins at the end of April and lasts unit around the 15th of July, it gives BYU and university students the opportunity to have a summer job that gives them a lot of hours and pays above average," says President Layton.

He says the boys have valuable hands-on work experience.

"The young men handle important functions of the process, such as inventory control, shipping, customer service, information processing, and process management."

"Since this is a seasonal process, learning how to handle responsibility and to function at a high level has to happen quickly," he adds.

President Layton, himself a father of six, says the boys who work for him do more than earn money and gain experience. "They also work long hours, they get tired, they'd rather be somewhere else doing easier, fun things, yet they stick it out and persist past being uncomfortable. This not only strengthens them physically, but more importantly it strengthens them emotionally, it helps them become mentally tough."

"This opportunity is also unique because they live down on the farm for the week, so they are away from their parents," he adds. "This really boosts their self-confidence and helps with their independence and self-reliance."

One of the jobs the boys handle is to lift 50-pound bags of potatoes and stack them on pallets to put on a semi-truck.

"We all know that missions are hard, mostly emotionally. We need missionaries that are prepared to be emotionally self-reliant and willing to endure hard things," President Layton says.

President Layton says, in turn, he also receives many blessings by hiring young men to work on his farm.

"I've been a young men's leader in different capacities for 20 years. One of my greatest joys in life is to witness the emotional and spiritual maturation process of growing up. I enjoy seeing the youth become more disciplined, better decision makers, and to have more resolve independent of their parents to follow the teachings and example of Jesus Christ. Specific to young men it is a blessing in my life to be able to witness first hand as they 'rise up; and become men of God."

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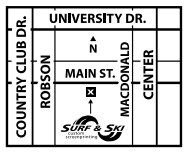

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Photo courtesy Surf & Ski

A mural on the back of the building at 137 W. Main, marks the oldest business building in Mesa, which now houses Surf & Ski, the four-decade old company that is Arizona›s screen printing leader.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Surf & Ski, Arizona's custom screen printing leader, was an icon in Mesa, even before most of the current residents moved into the East Valley community.

Now, more than four decades since owner Gary Brown opened his doors, hundreds of thousands of Surf & Ski printed shirts have been worn by Mesa residents and by others across the state and nation.

Among the most famous were shirts for the World Series when the Diamondbacks won, Super Bowl shirts when it was held at Sun Devil Stadium and 38,000 shirts turned out overnight for U of A when they won the National Basketball Championship. They've also done printing for Young Women camps, Boy Scouts, politicians, sporting events, schools and for the Mesa Fire Department for 33 years.

Surf & Ski also offers embroidery services and prints banners, bags and other unique promotional items. "There are about a quarter of a million possibilities," Gary says.

After graduating from Mesa High in 1959, serving in the Southern States Mission, attending Brigham Young University and getting married, Gary returned to Arizona and, in 1968, he and a friend bought a screen printing business.

"It consisted of 80 screens, two tables and drying racks made out of chicken wire."

Now, the mammoth, operation is housed in the 100-year-old "Stapley Hardware Company" building, the oldest office building in Mesa, where they have an in-house art department; two automatic and 10 manual printers and four dryers and 13,000 stored screens.

Gary bought the building as part of an effort to revitalize downtown Mesa and keep local business alive.

Gary has helped Arizona's economy in other ways as well, as, over the years he has bought out 35 other companies, mostly small screen printers that were going out of business. He has invested in houses and other projects through Caliber Productions; started Dig and Save, that offered out-of-stock items and "seconds;" introduced karaoke to Arizona in 1984 and sold the hardware and software through Sensational Sound for 17 years.

Gary attributes his success to "good people, good products and paying my tithing."

Call Surf & Ski at 480-834-5010, stop in at 137 W. Main in Mesa or visit www.surf-ski.com.

LDS Hospice Chaplain
Continued from pg. 7

says, "was when an 80-year-old patient with Parkinson's disease, and who had only months to live himself, asked me to help him give a blessing to his wife who was going to be having surgery."

"As an LDS chaplain, I can do things that others can't do and I can train other chaplains I work with as well to understand the temple garment, explain what they are, and things like that."

In addition to providing home and nursing facility visits across Maricopa County, Hospice of the Southwest also runs three inpatient units, at Higley and Broadway roads in Mesa, Cave Creek Road and the 101 freeway and 117th Avenue and Peoria.

Brother Perkins says, back in the days of laying concrete, he never imagined he would end up as a hospice chaplain.

However, he says, "I'm convinced, that Heavenly Father put me in the right place at the right time. I've had several experiences so I know for a fact that I'm where I was meant to be."

"I'm grateful for the opportunity and that Hospice of the Southwest allows me to promote the religion I believe in so strongly."

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U.S. Border Patrolman Killed in Line of Duty, LAID TO REST

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The news rocked the nation when Nicolas Ivie, a 30-year-old Provo native, was shot and killed October 2, near the Arizona-Mexico border while on patrol as a U.S. Customs and Border Protection agent.

It was particularly heartbreaking for his young wife, Christy and their two children—ages 4 and 20 months old—his close-knit LDS family and the ward where he served in the bishopric.

Ivie, who was the youngest son in his family, followed in his older brother Joel's footsteps, when, in 2008, he moved to Sierra Vista, Ariz., from Provo to protect the nation's border. The native Utahns brought with them a knowledge of horses and of the outdoors, skills that suited them for various aspects of the work as border patrolmen, said Doyle Davis, a friend of the Ivie family.

In fact, those skills were needed when, just before 2 a.m. on October 2, a sensor went off in a remote part of the desert near Bisbee, Ariz., and Ivie went in to investigate.

Ivie had been called just two months earlier to serve as second counselor in the bishopric of the Sierra Vista 2nd Ward. Marlee Forsberg, whose husband served with Ivie in the bishopric, was quoted as saying, "Everybody loved him. He was very kind, sweet, always reaching out to other people."

A Deseret News report, published later in the day on Oct. 2, quoted Sierra Vista Arizona Stake President Kevin Goates. President Goates said he was in the church meeting that Ivie conducted in the Sierra Vista 2nd Ward just the previous Sunday.

"I was thinking what a great man this is and how faithfully he was serving," Goates was quoted as saying. "It's just a shock to see him gone so abruptly."

First reports said local law officials and the FBI would be investigating the incident and looking for the shooters. However, by October 8, the day of the funeral for Ivie, USA Today, reported the funeral "took place as authorities investigate what they now believe to be a case of friendly fire."

George McCubbin, National Border Patrol Council president said Ivie was approaching a shallow canyon from the north. Two other agents, a man and a woman, were approaching from the south. Investigators believe Ivie thought he had run into an armed smuggler and fired, striking the man in the ankle and buttocks, McCubbin said. The injured agent returned fire, killing Ivie.

Speaking at the funeral, Ivie's older brother, Joel, said Nicholas learned Spanish while on his LDS mission in Mexico and that he came to love the people there.

USA Today further quoted Joel as saying that Nick had installed the sensor he was responding to when he was killed and he knew the hilly area very well. Joel described it as "a beautiful place" and said

Continued on pg. 11

Photo courtesy U.S. Border Patrol

Nicholas Ivie, 30, a U.S. border patrol agent who had recently been called as second counselor in the Sierra Vista 2nd Ward, was shot and killed while on duty, Oct. 2.

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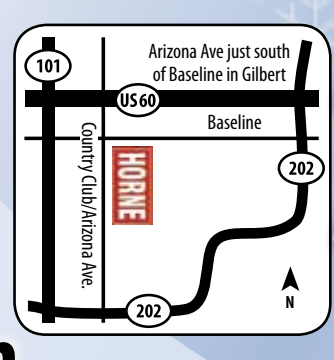

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Mesa Artist Shares His Testimony THROUGH HIS PAINTINGS

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

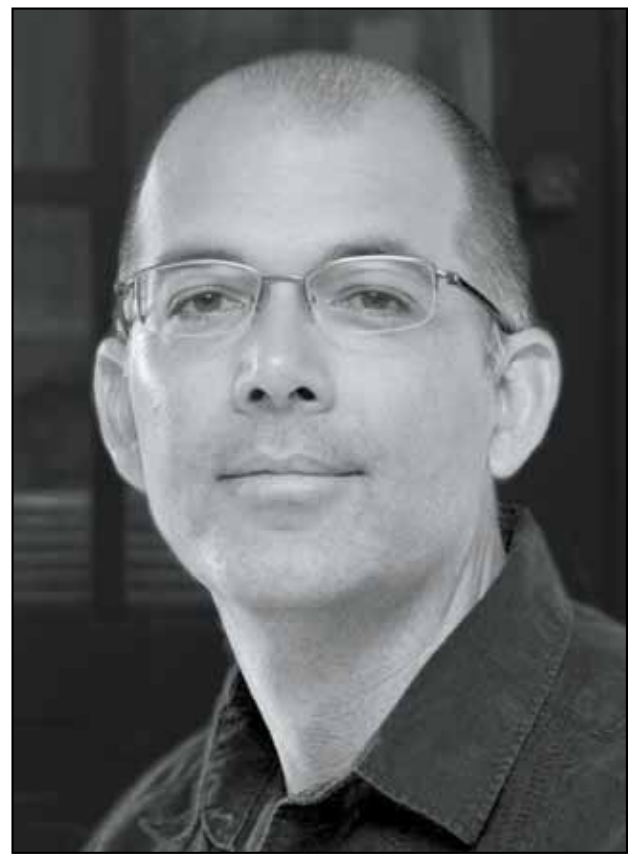

Photo courtesy Shari Lyon

Howard Lyon, a Mesa resident, who has worked for years as an art director and illustrator, has shifted his career so he now spends most of his time painting religious fine art and sharing his faith and testimony through his brushstrokes.

As young child growing up in Mesa, Howard Lyon loved to draw; and, by age 12, he had announced that he wanted to be an artist.

Supportive parents encouraged him and made sure he had materials and education to pursue his craft. Howard, now a member of Ocotillo Ward, Chandler Heights Stake, says he also had the encouragement of Shari Lunt, who he met in high school and married after graduation. After studying illustration at Brigham Young University, they returned to Arizona, and Howard has worked as an artist ever since.

"I've never done anything else," Howard says, adding that any child interested in art should be encouraged. "You may not be doing oil painting;" but, he points out, "Every book, t-shirt, movie, video game—everything we see around us, has art in it. There is rewarding and great work to do out there."

For 15 years, Brother Lyon worked in the video game industry as an Art Director, concept artist and freelance illustrator. His website, at www.howardlyon.com, portrays some of the dragons, trolls and science fiction scenes that made it in to products like the Dungeons and Dragons books, World of Warcraft cards and Star Wars.

Howard has remained a student of art, studying in Italy, France and at the Grand Central Academy in New York, and, much like a pianist practicing scales, he has a daily routine of focusing on basics and trying to improve his abilities.

With the assistance of his wife and with his own aspirations as motivation, Howard made a change a couple of years ago and, today, while he does some illustrating and private commission work, the bulk of his time is spent on painting religious fine art.

"It really was like a career change," he says. "I was to the point that I felt I could execute the vision in my head well enough to create important scenes and represent them in the way I wanted."

Howard's recent painting "From Fear to Faith" won a Merit Award in the 26th Annual Spiritual and Religious Art of Utah Exhibition and was exhibited in the 9th international religious show at the Church History and Art Museum in Salt Lake. It also won one of six viewers' choice awards out of 200 pieces in the show.

Howard has won other awards, and he says seeing his works at bookstores

Continued on pg. 13

US Border Patrolman
Continued from pg. 10

he believes his brother died a peaceful death.

"My brother would want those left behind to live lives of charity, as he did," Joel was quoted as saying. Nick Ivie lived by example so others "can come to Christ."

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer was among those in attendance. The service was broadcast to other Mormon churches throughout Cochise County in southeast Arizona.

President Coates told KSL News the government benefit plan Ivie had would not cover final expenses. Family members set up a donation account to help cover Ivie's funeral costs. Anyone who would like to offer financial aid to the Ivie family can donate to the Nicholas Ivie Memorial Fund at any Zion's Bank branch.

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Former Mission President and Regional Representative Dies at 80

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Dr. Raymond Louis Russell, 80, a stalwart member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who presided over the Canada Toronto Mission from 1977-80 and served as a regional representative, died in Mesa August 9, 2012.

Dr. Russell was a native of Mesa, born March 14, 1932, to Ernest E. and Ethel H. Stewart Russell. A doctor of Veterinary Medicine, he was active in various local and state civic organizations. He served the Boy Scouts of America at the local, regional and national levels. He was awarded the Silver Beaver in 1967, Silver Antelope in 1971 and Distinguished Eagle Scout in 1972. Dr. Russell also organized a Veterinary Medicine Explorer Specialty Post, one of the first in the USA.

Photo courtesy of Raymond L. Russell family

Raymond L. Russell, well-known community and Church leader and businessman from Mesa, passed away in August.

The author of two leadership books, Dr. Russell was president of ExecuTrends, a professional development and training program.

He dedicated many years of service to the LDS Church. In addition to serving as a mission president and regional representative, Dr. Russell served faithfully in various other leadership positions and Church callings. At the time of his death, he was a member of the Mesa North Stake.

He is preceded in death by his parents; siblings: Stewart Russell, David Russell, and Ralph Russell, and two sons: Stanford Russell and Evan (Brenda) Russell. Dr. Russell is survived by his wife of 61 years, Evangeline Davis; his children: Sheree (Steve) Fetter, Renee (Chuck) DeHut, Joani (Marc) Frazier, Melanie Vieane, and Marcy (Darwin) Slade; one brother: Dan Russell of Logan, UT; 28 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren.

Mesa Artist
Continued from pg. 11

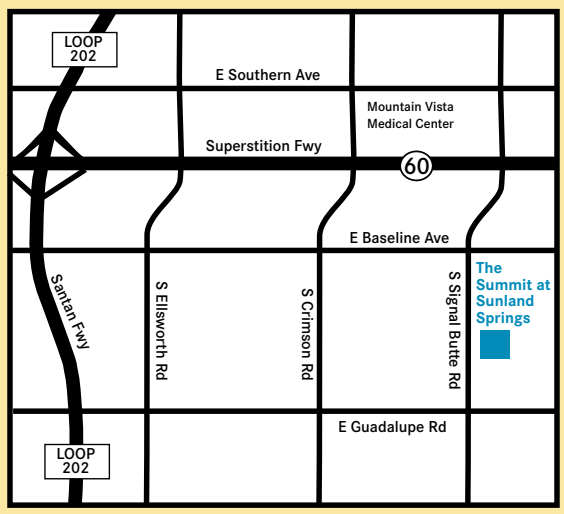
and galleries is rewarding. However, most gratifying are the individual reactions to his paintings.

"It's not any different from anyone who gets to bear testimony to someone. It's meaningful when I get to talk to an individual who liked one of my paintings and to hear that it had meaning to them, to feel the other person's emotions and to see their faith."

Howard chooses what to paint after he and Shari consider a list of possibilities. "We let it simmer for a while and then, like any spiritual question, we listen to conference, listen in church, pray, read our scriptures and some of the ideas end up rising to the top," he says.

Most often, his paintings reflect his own faith and testimony and his struggles to know the Savior. He hopes, in turn, that his work will "teach and touch people's lives."

The Lyons host in-home parties where Howard shares the background behind his paintings and where art can be purchased and signed by Howard. "Art in the Home shows are about filling our homes with art that will that will be an influence for good, art that will teach, inspire and testify of Christ," Shari says. To learn more, call 480.241.7907 or visit www.fineart.howardlyon.com



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Jesus Christ identified only two promised lands, Jerusalem and the New Jerusalem (3 Nephi 20:22,29). Ancient prophets wrote of the New Jerusalem as being built upon Book of Mormon lands (Ether 13:2-8). The first scriptural "*land of promise*" was named after Adam's great-grandson Cainan (PGP Moses 6:17) whom he blessed at Adam-ondi-Ahman (D&C 107:53, D&C 116:1). The scriptures establish that this "*land of promise*" (D&C 57:1-3), as well as the New Jerusalem, are located on sacred ground located in the Heartland of North America (D&C 84:2-4).

These two promised and covenant lands, one Old World (Jerusalem) and one New World (New Jerusalem), were provided by the Lord with all the necessities to fulfill the covenant people's responsibilities to bless "*all the nations of the earth*" (Gen. 22:18).

These are the same two promised and covenanted lands that have been designated for the latter day gathering of God's chosen people, Israel.

On these two lands the gospel was established and later restored, Christ ministered to the Jews and then to the Nephites, Adam dwelt, Joseph Smith traveled, the future New Jerusalem will be built and on both Christ will return. The scriptures, Christ and the revelations of Joseph Smith have been consistent throughout all time.

The Book of Mormon text limits the latter-day "*Promised Land*" to a "*nation*" (1 Ne.13:19,30 22:7, 2 Ne. 10:11-12) that would be "*set up,*" "*established,*" (3 Ne.21:4) "*lifted up,*" (1 Ne.13:30) "*raised up,*" (1 Ne.22:7) and "*delivered by the power of God out of the hands of all other nations*" (1 Ne. 13:19). Eight times the text refers to this particular nation as a "*land of liberty*" (2 Ne. 1:7, 10:11, Mosiah 29:32, Alma 46:10, 16, 17, 3 Ne. 21:4, Ether 2:12), which would become a "*mighty Gentile nation*" (1 Ne. 22:7) "*above all other nations*" (3 Ne. 20:27), a land of "*prosperity*" and "*security*" (2 Ne.1:31, 3:2, Hel. 12:2). Its being a "nation" is the lands scriptural limiting factor.

Which nation were the ancient prophets trying to warn? Their prophecies are unquestionably warning the United States of America. They knew that should this nation fall, it would profoundly hinder the latter-day Church's mission and ability to bless the nations of the earth. Thus, God "*raised up*" "*wise men*" (D&C 101: 80) to establish a blessed and prosperous nation so that the latter-day Church could bless the world through the gospel. The Book of Mormon testifies repeatedly that its own history occurred on this same promised land.

Within what is now the United States we find the only Hill Cumorah, Adamic & Nephite altars at Adam-ondi-Ahman, the lands in which the gospel was restored (3 Ne. 21:22-23) and where the Lord revealed the location of Zarahemla (D&C 125:3). On this land during Zion's Camp Joseph beheld the vision of Zelph, a warrior who was killed in one of the final battles with the Lamanites in Illinois. Joseph wrote that Zion's Camp was "*wandering over the plains of the Nephites, roving over the mounds of that once beloved people of the Lord, picking up their skulls & their bones, as a proof of its divine authenticity.*"

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One highly advanced civilization closely matches the Nephite time frame, had Israelite DNA types and built over 200,000 earthen structures including temples and cities with ditches, earthbanks and roads. They had extensive commerce throughout the eastern portion of North America.

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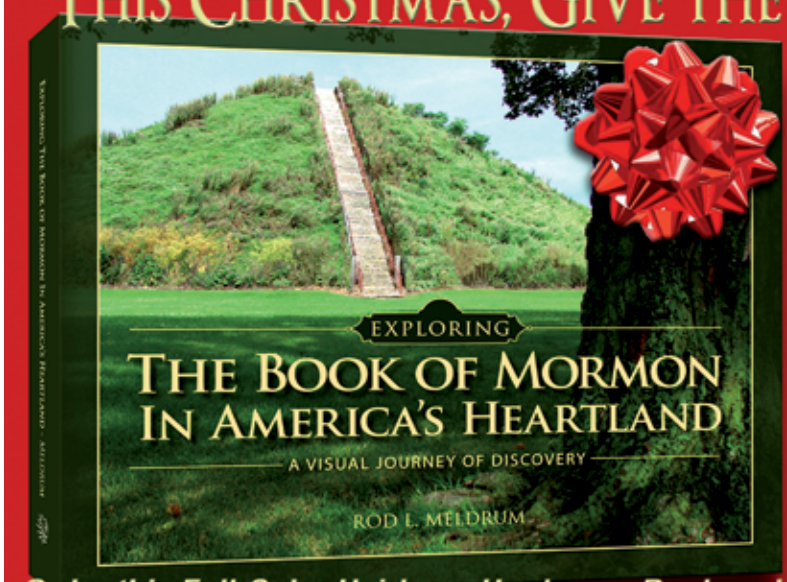

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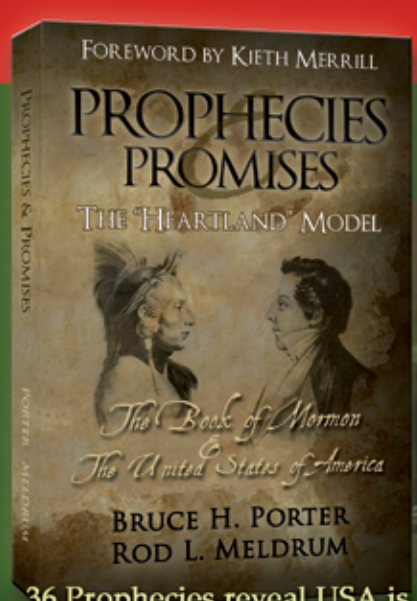
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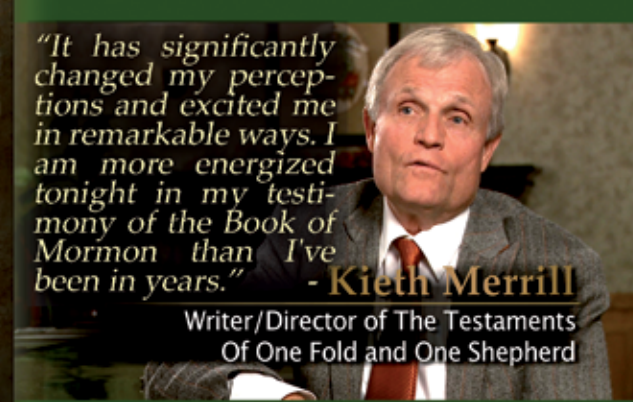
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Photos courtesy of Silver Star Playhouse

The building in East Mesa that houses the new Silver Star Playhouse has been remodeled with an upscale Western theme and will offer a new style of entertainment as well.

SILVER STAR PLAYHOUSE

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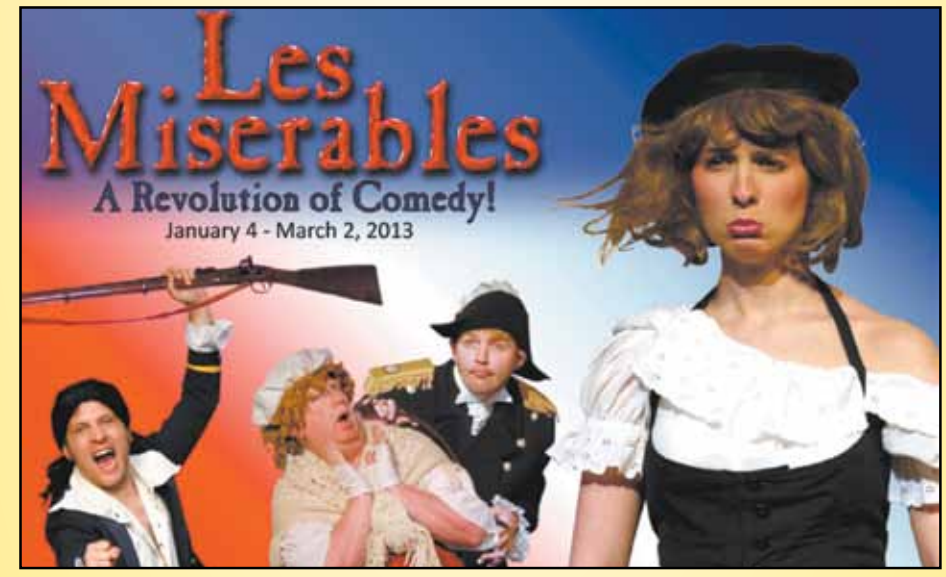

Photos courtesy of Silver Star Playhouse

The new Silver Star Playhouse, patterned after the 25-year running Desert Star Playhouse in Salt Lake, will open with a Christmas show Nov. 29 and has announced five of their original musical comedies for the 2013 season.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

With 25 years and 460 performances under their belt, Mike Todd and his wife, Alyce, and the team at the Desert Star Playhouse in Utah have entertainment down to an audience-satisfying science.

Now, they've combined all that has worked to attract more than 10,000 season holders there and are delivering their unique and family-friendly style in East Mesa, in a totally refurbished, upscale Western-style theatre, called Silver Star Playhouse.

"There is good entertainment in the Valley and the audiences are great," Mike says, adding that the goal of Silver Star Playhouse is to deliver to those Arizona audiences a type of entertainment they haven't had access to before.

"What we do is completely different from any other theater in the Valley," Mike says. Rather than Broadway musicals or other plays that are common in other venues, "what we do is musical comedy, original musical comedy."

In fact, he says, "We like to find out what everyone else is doing and then we don't do that." He explains that Silver Star Playhouse performances are often tied to familiar plays and musicals, so, for example, opening November 29, will be "A

Continued on pg. 18

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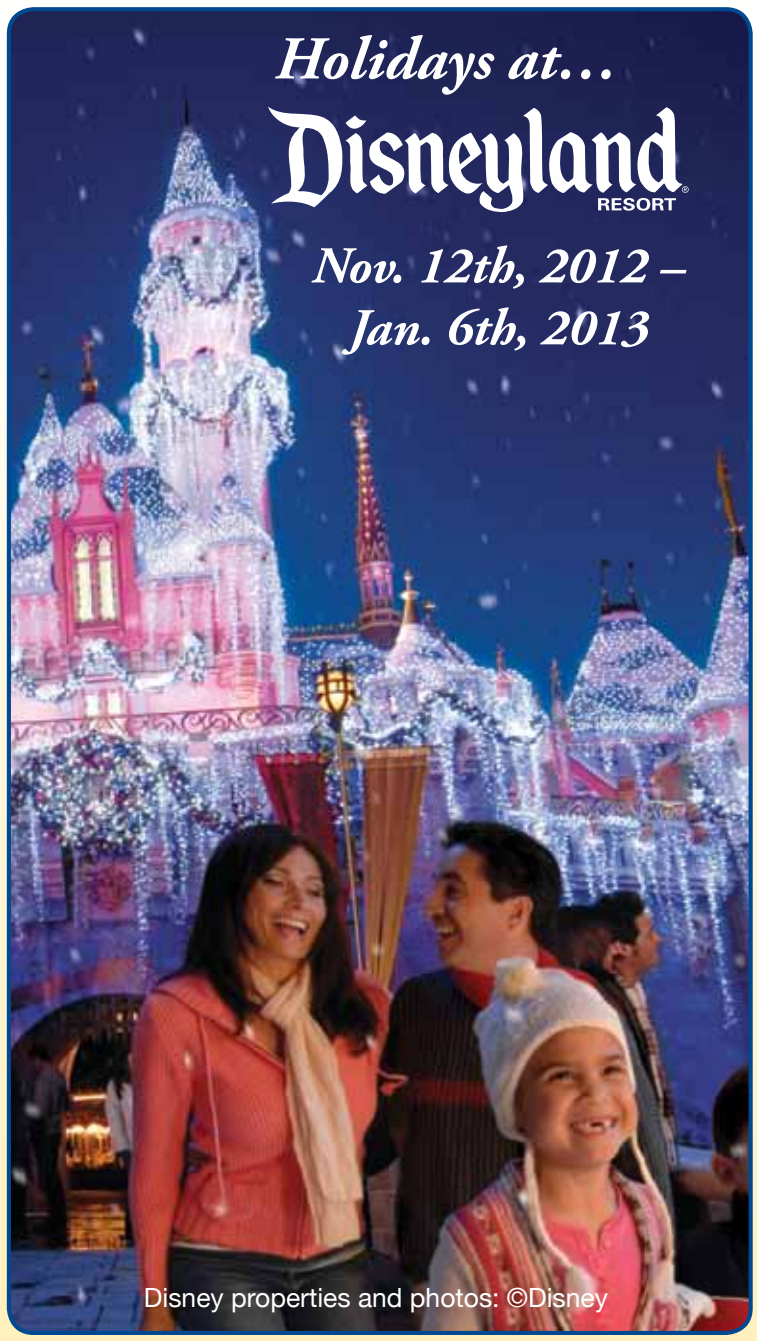

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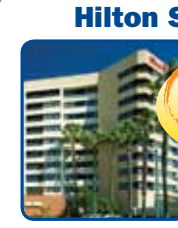

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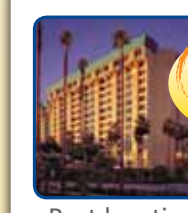

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Voices of Christmas
YSA Choir & Orchestra
Presents Annual Concert

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The Voices of Christmas choir and orchestra will present its annual concert on December 14. The choir started in 2004, with just 14 people, as a way for high school students to further develop their talents. The choir has grown over the years. Last year, they had 64 singers.

This year, the choir has been "adopted" by one of the new young single adult stakes, the Mesa YSA West Stake. With that change, the choir has doubled in size, and a bell choir has been added. There are now more than 140 young adults participating.

The choir's goal has always been to give the Valley the highest quality Christmas concert, one that would not only present excellent music, but convey the spirit of the season as well, says Ted Sowards, who has been a part of the Voices of Christmas since it began and has now been called as stake music director.

According to Ted, the choir was joined with an orchestra the first year, but that was done away with as the choir grew. Four years ago, the orchestra was reinstated.

"We believe there should be a free, highest quality concert that guides people closer to the real reason of the season," Ted says. "This is the concert your soul longs for, but you won't know it until you experience it."

The free Voices of Christmas concert will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec 14, at Mesa's Mountain View High School. Sunday dress is encouraged. For more information, visit www.azlds.com

Silver Star Playhouse
Continued from pg. 16

Christmas Carol, Part II: A Dickens of a Christmas."

In the Christmas show, well-known LDS actor, Ken Eklof, will appear in the role of Scrooge. Among his long list of credits, Ecklof has been involved with the Savior of the World production in Salt Lake since 2000, had the role of Brigham Young in the Nauvoo Pageant for the first three years, and appeared in and made sets for many of the "Liken the Scriptures" videos. He says he is excited about doing musical comedy in Arizona.

"I really enjoy live theater and love the interaction with the audience," Ecklof says. "Silver Star has family-friendly entertainment—and it's good comedy, clean comedy for all ages."

"It's fun and it's funny," Mike says, adding that while their musicals often play off of other performances, "audiences will find that, they don't have to see any other show to laugh and enjoy what we offer."

Following the Christmas show, the 2013 season will include Les Miserables: A Revolution of Comedy, Butch Cassidy and the Sunburnt Kid, Pirates of the Scarribean, Legally Brunette: Not All Dumbs are Blonde and Man of La Mesa. Season tickets and individual show tickets are available.

Another unique aspect at Silver Star will be the food offerings. "Unlike most dinner theaters, where you pay $50 or more a ticket for dinner and a show, our food is optional."

They have made-to-order gourmet pizza, wraps, soft drinks and more, all that can be ordered right before the show and then is served to the table, for show-goers who choose to eat there.

The Silver Star Playhouse is located at 5247 E. Brown Road in Mesa. Individual tickets ($18.95 for Christmas shows, $17.95 for others) and season tickets are available now. Visit www.silverstarplayhouse.com or call 480-325-6700.

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School of Photography Opens in Mesa

By Michael Heywood
The Beehive

Brandt Seegmiller, of Brandt Photography, is known for his 32 years as one of Mesa's premier photographic portraitists.

He shares those talents in many ways, including providing photographs of newly called missionaries in each issue of the Beehive as a contribution to the missionary effort.

"Brother Seegmiller has always been very generous with his talents," says Bishop Lynn Westergard of Mesa Kimball Stake's Sunny Mesa Ward, where Brandt and his musician wife, Karen, are members.

Now, Brandt has opened The Brandt School of Photography in his upscale studio in Mesa.

"This school is the fulfillment of my long-held desire to help others turn their interest in photography, whether as a hobbyist or with professional aspirations, into a working mastery of the art and craft of the photographic medium," Brandt states.

"Students get to learn and apply the intensive instruction in a truly professional environment, and their progress is often amazing," he says. "It is so exciting every Thursday evening as the students arrive ready to learn."

The school's curriculum is designed to instill both the technical and the creative aspects of photography.

"The class is an intensive course of camera controls, lens selection and use and, perhaps most critically, lighting," Brandt explains. "The term 'photo graph' means 'light drawing.' Lighting is the difference between a snapshot and a work of art."

The course covers using outdoor natural light, camera flash and studio lighting. It also teaches composition, or the placement of the elements in a photograph.

"At the end, students will know more than most working professionals," Brandt says. "Each student brings his or her own goals to the classes, and my function is to ensure that each individual achieves those goals, whether for professional advancement or strictly personal satisfaction."

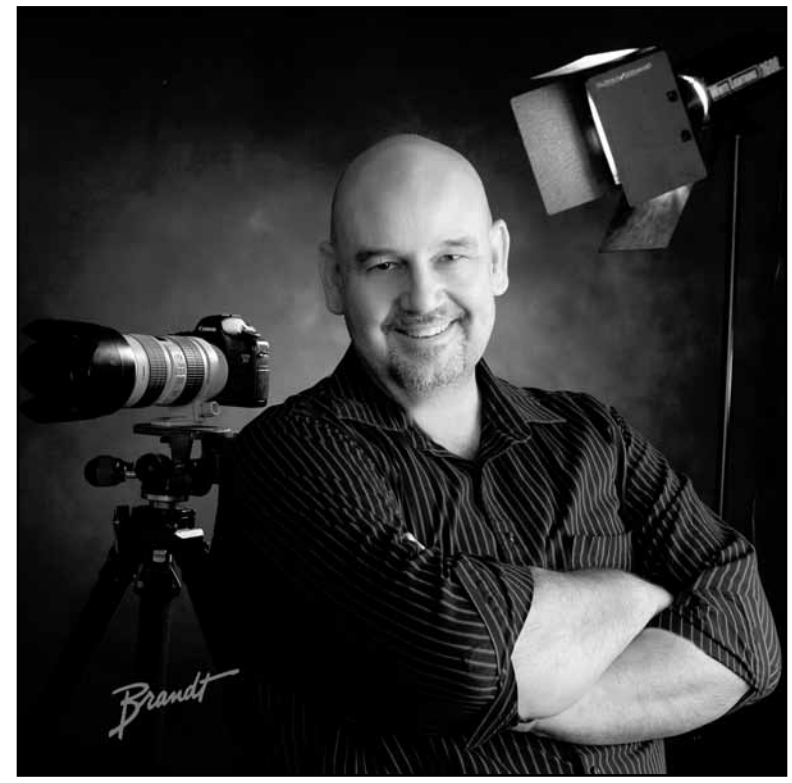

Photo by Brandt Photography

Brandt Seegmiller, of the well-known Brandt Photography studio in Mesa, has opened The Brandt School of Photography and is developing courses for Mesa Community College as well.

One student, Kelly Judy, comments, "As a realtor for high-end properties, my goal was to capture interior and exterior photographs that would inspire potential buyers to come and see them. At one point, Brandt came to one of my new listings and we worked together to apply the principles he had been teaching. The resulting flyer turned out to be spectacular."

Brandt also is developing a course at Mesa Community College as a further means of sharing his knowledge and love of the photographic process.

"At MCC we are supporting business through our Workforce Development program," says MCC's Jared Lankilde. "One of the fastest-growing fields in the valley is photography. We have enlisted Brandt Photography to teach several professional level courses to help ensure the success of these new businesses."

Brandt's broad photographic experience and his skills are portrayed on his website: www.brandtphoto.net. His accomplishments cover not only the fine portraiture that is his hallmark, but also many assignments with top corporations, architectural and product photography, photographic reproduction technologies and more.

The Brandt School of Photography is located in the Brandt Photography Studio, 156 S. Mesa Drive, Suite 101 (one block west of the Mesa Temple). For class information, call 480-834-1400 or email Brandt at b@brandtphoto.net.

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Michael Drysdale

Michael Drysdale, who was paralyzed as the result of an automobile accident in 1992, has created a benefit dance—the Van4Mike.com BASH—and a drive to raise funds for accessible vans for himself and for others in need.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

On June 13, 1992, just weeks after graduating from Mesa's Mountain View High School, Michael Drysdale lay in a hospital bed, comatose and teetering between life and death.

Mike had been in a rollover car accident while driving home from Utah and had broken his neck (c3/c4-incomplete) and suffered a closed-head injury.

"The doctors told my family that there was only a slim chance I'd ever wake up, and, if I did, I'd likely have brain damage and be paralyzed from the neck down," Mike says.

"My family felt inspired to leave me in God's hands; and after three weeks in a coma, I did wake up."

That was just the beginning of a very long recovery.

"I was paralyzed as they had predicted and unable to talk, but with God's help, the therapy and my determination began to pay off. I learned to speak again and to use my right arm and hand functionally before being discharged to go home."

For the next few years, Mike worked with his attendant. "He would move my legs for me, as I tried to move with him," Mike says.

Mike did extensive, self-directed therapy at Carvel Jackson's Health Improvement Center at MCC and then at LA Fitness.

"I regained a degree of functionality in both of my legs," he says, and he gradually became more independent.

Still, while he's continued to work out for the past 20 years, can walk with assistance and has improved his physical ability immensely, he says, "I haven't been able to kick the wheelchair to the curb, so to speak, yet."

"In 2000 and beyond, I was married, became a father, held a fulltime job, drove a wheelchair van, owned a house and everything seemed to be progressing positively. It was truly the American Dream," Mike says.

Then in 2007, ongoing, excruciating pain forced Mike to quit his job. He eventually lost his house. His wife and two children moved to Washington, where she could be close to her family and Mike stayed in Arizona with his parents. She filed for divorce in 2009.

"Not long after that," Mike says, "the van I'd driven for years was finally ready for the junkyard. Since then, I've used public transportation for almost every appointment, errand or therapeutic undertaking."

While Mike's health and strength has continued to improve to the point that he is capable and enthusiastic about resuming employment, "not having a vehicle has made it near impossible to do so," he says. Using public transportation isn't practical either.

"When I use public transport, I must spend hours (in my wheelchair) going to and from bus stops or awaiting Dial A Ride. Often, I'm forced to ride my wheelchair along the street for distances that exceed five miles."

The transport time means Mike can't be available for more than a few hours daily, for a job.

"Owning my own vehicle is a key component to my success and progress," Mike says.

He tried to win a van that was given away in May 2012.

"Regrettably, even with hours of emailing, distributing flyers and posting to message boards, there were still many in the contest with thousands more votes than me."

He resolutely created "Plan B."

"I'm renting out Centennial Hall in Mesa, and, on December 27, I am throwing a fundraising dance, the Van-4Mike.com BASH," Mike explains.

He hopes, with the proceeds from the dance, and what he raises using Fundly.com, he will be able to purchase an accessible vehicle.

"All donated funds will go toward my wheelchair accessible vehicle," he says. "If more funds are donated than I need for my van, those funds will be 'paid forward' to help others in need."

For every $10 you donate on www.van4mike.com (www.fundly.com/van-4mike), you will get one ticket to the Van4Mike.com BASH. Anyone who is unable to attend the event, but still wants to contribute certainly can, Mike says, and anyone can give more than the $10 if they desire.

Mike says he plans to continue the event in the future.

"This will become a periodic event to help disabled people get vehicles," he says. "This is your opportunity to help make this happen."

To contribute, go to www.Van-4Mike.com. To contact Mike Drysdale, call 602-369-7807 or email van4mike@hotmail.com.

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Betty Josephine Fuller Dent Conveys Love and Commitment to Arizona Ranch Life

Photo by Kurt Markus

Tracy and Betty Dent ranched in several locations across the state of Arizona. The Dents are pictured at the CF Ranch, south of Seligman, in 1983.

By Emily Jex Boyle
The Beehive

Growing up on the Valle Ranch north of Williams, Betty Josephine Fuller Dent remembers the many hours spent with her two brothers, playing "house" on the hill above camp. The three of them would take a wooden box their mother helped pack with plates, utensils, two small Dutch ovens, a can of corn and some potatoes, and would cook their own lunch within sight of home.

They raced steel wagon wheel rings down the railroad tracks through the canyon near the ranch house, and when it rained, they played in the ditches.

Betty was born at St. Joseph's Hospital in Phoenix in 1927, to Ora Jones and Lester H. Fuller, one of their eight children. Betty's mother was part of a ranching family from Springerville; her father's family was from Pine.

When Betty was about seven years old, her father took a job working as foreman for the Double O outfit; and the Fullers moved to the Seligman area. Betty remembers her father reading the Book of Mormon and her mother telling the children stories. Most of her life they lived far away from any branch or ward. Betty's faith was primarily founded on lessons learned in and around the ranch. She was baptized near the Santa Fe Dam in Williams.

One day, Tracy Dent, a young cowboy from Winslow stopped by the Fuller home to ask about a business matter. Betty, attracted to his new car, asked if she could have a ride. He took her to a show in Seligman. That beginning led to Tracy and Betty being married in 1947 in Flagstaff.

Tracy was hired at Pica Camp in 1949, and the couple moved into the old Boquillas House. When Betty first arrived, the water was frozen. They brought in water from the cattle troughs, boiled it, then used it.

As the Dent family grew, Tracy worked on different ranches. In January 1957, they moved to the San Rafael Ranch, southeast of Patagonia. Their home, which had a beautiful view off the hill, was featured in the movie, "McClintock" with John Wayne. Part of the musical "Oklahoma" also was filmed in the area.

At San Rafael, Betty held her own Primary classes for her children. They'd travel to Nogales once a month to visit the branch president's family. Missionaries often visited the ranch. Although Tracy wasn't LDS, he felt strongly about his children belonging to the Church.

As their oldest started high school, the family moved to Gila Bend, where Tracy was hired at Don Martin's feed yard. The older children attended school as well as seminary at Gila Bend. Betty taught Primary for four

Continued on pg. 25

Photo by Bill Burch

Construction on the Gilbert Temple and on the Phoenix Temple (shown above) continues and a sixth temple for Arizona to be located in Tucson was announced in October General Conference.

TEMPLE Announced for Tucson Arizona

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints across Arizona were thrilled with the news when, in the Saturday morning session of the 182nd Semiannual General Conference on October 6, President Thomas S. Monson, in his opening remarks, announced plans for two new temples, one of them in Tucson, Ariz., the other in Arequipa, Peru.

"No church-built facility is more important than a temple," President Monson said, adding, "We are grateful for these sacred edifices and the blessings they bring into our lives."

At the time of the announcement, there were 139 temples in operation, with 27 more announced or under construction. The Tucson Temple will be the sixth in Arizona, with the Mesa Temple, the Snowflake Temple and the Gila Valley Temple already dedicated and in operation and a temple in Gilbert and one in Phoenix under construction. According to a Deseret News article from October 11, there are approximately 400,000 Church members in Arizona.

"I was really happy when I heard President Thomas S. Monson start talking and saying he was pleased to announce there was going to be a temple in Tucson," says 10-year-old Madison Elam of the Sahuarita 4th Ward, Sahuarita Stake.

"I was born in Tucson, so I am glad we are going to have a temple here. Now I can do baptisms for the dead when I am 12 and I can also go to the temple when I'm a missionary," Madison says.

Mary Pace, of the Picture Rock Ward, Tucson West Stake, says her husband, Bob, was working and she was home alone watching conference on TV when she heard the announcement. Sister Pace, who retired as an orchestra teacher and started serving as an ordinance worker in the Mesa Temple in the spring, says, "I just burst into tears."

She and her husband were married in the Mesa Temple but, with his military career, they have lived all over the country. "We ended up stationed back here in 1991," she says, "and I'm thrilled—overwhelmed—to have a temple being built in Tucson."

Michelle Price, of the Butterfield Ward, Tucson West Stake, says, "We're really excited. It's something we've been hoping for for a long time."

While there are rumors about location of the temple, as President Monson announced, "Details concerning these temples will be provided in the future as necessary permits and approvals are obtained."

As construction continues on the Gilbert Temple, located on the southeast corner of Greenfield and Pecos roads, passersby can see visible prog-

Continued on pg. 25

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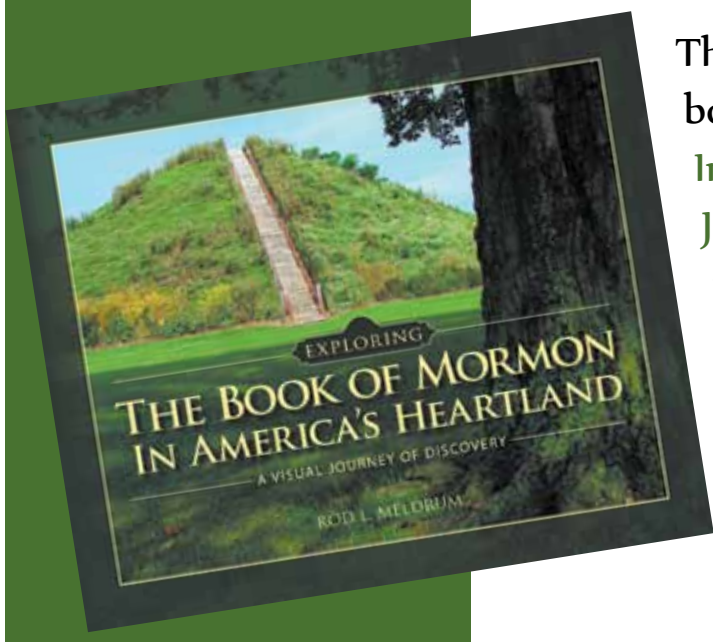

The recently released photographic book: Exploring the Book of Mormon In America's Heartland, A Visual Journey of Discovery by Rod Meldrum is a 212-page book that includes photographs and a complete overview of the different aspects of research into the "heartland model" of the Book of Mormon.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Photo courtesy of Rod Meldrum.

Rod Meldrum, who has spent nearly a decade researching and gathering evidence for the "heartland model" of the Book of Mormon, shares that evidence through lectures, two DVD series, books and articles.

Acclaimed Book of Mormon researcher, Rod Meldrum, has spent more than a decade researching, lecturing and writing about what is known as the "heartland model" of the Book of Mormon.

According to Brother Meldrum, geography, scriptural references, archeological evidence and, even DNA, point to the United States, the "Promised Land," as the setting for the Book of Mormon.

He says his findings and studies by other members of the Church as well as members of the scientific community and historians, continue to unveil "exciting and undeniable evidence."

His original live presentations centered around the DNA research and was shared on his first DVD, titled "DNA Evidence for Book of Mormon Geography," which has now been seen by many tens of thousands. His original five-disk DVD series, titled Book of Mormon Evidence has more than nine hours of information, including 14 interviews with noted authorities.

Continued on pg. 25

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Book of Mormon Researcher
Continued from pg. 24

As Rod has shared his research, other scholars have come forth and joined Rod in his efforts; and The Foundation for Indigenous Research and Mormonism, (the FIRM Foundation) was created. The foundation is dedicated to exploring and disseminating information relating to the "remnant" peoples of the "Promised Land" and their relationship to Mormonism.

FIRM held its 10th semi-annual National Book of Mormon Evidence Conference earlier this year. Brother Meldrum says it drew 500-plus people and included "two full days of solid Book of Mormon-related research delving deep into its evidences."

He says that "the 'heartland model' geography continues to gain momentum with new and broader research emerging from unexpected realms, such as geometry, Hebrew symbolism, Laws of Moses, prophetic covenants, Native American legends and etymology."

Earlier this year, Rod published a photographic book: Exploring the Book of Mormon In America's Heartland, A Visual Journey of Discovery. "It's a gorgeous 212-page, full-color, 'coffee-table' quality book" he says.

"It gives a complete overview of all the different aspects of research being discovered in support of the Book of Mormon."

The book is currently in its third printing, and 50 pages are shown on the website, www.BookofMormonEvidence.org, under "galleries."

In 2009, Brother Meldrum released a five-DVD series presenting the scriptural, prophetic and archaeological foundations of his research and has a new six-DVD series titled "Book of Mormon Evidence II," which includes additional research and evidences.

He adds that the new research provides "some of the most compelling evidence to date" for "substantiation of the route and timing of Lehi's ocean voyage, the cause and extent of the destruction at the time of Christ, ancient mining of gold, copper and silver and iron smelting and of the use of Hebrew writing, and more—all found in America's Heartland."

Free articles, galleries, testimonials and downloads of this information are available at www.BookofMormonEvidence.org, along with dozens of supporting books and DVDs that are available in the website's bookstore.

Commitment to AZ Ranch Life
Continued from pg. 22

years in the Gila Bend Branch.

When only their youngest, Hulda, was still home, Tracy moved to ORO Ranch. Betty lived in Prescott so Hulda could attend school. The next year, Betty homeschooled Hulda at the ranch. In 1974, the Dents moved to the CF Ranch, and carpooled 10 to 12 miles with other ranch families to school in Seligman. Later, Tracy and Betty moved to Williams.

As she lived on ranches across Arizona, Betty always enjoyed the seasonal traditions of ranch life, with times for calving, branding, buying and selling, and moving cattle from winter and summer ranges. She loved riding around the ranch, checking tanks or performing other duties.

Comparing the modern day to the "old days" she emphasizes, "I like the other life."

She doesn't own a computer and needs help to use a microwave. She believes, "Growing up on a ranch is wonderful. Town kids miss it, wondering, 'What do you DO out there?' Kids who spent their life on ranches didn't have to be entertained."

Tuscon Arizona Temple
Continued from pg. 23

ress on the 83,000-sqare foot temple. On May 15, the angel Moroni statue was placed on the 195-foot tall spire and, as of September, all of the precast concrete panels had been attached on the exterior. By October, several dozen palms and other trees had been placed around the temple and installation of the art glass windows had begun. The art glass features an agave blossom motif, which will be used in various other places throughout the temple.

By the end of October, the steel skeleton of the Phoenix Temple was complete and placement of the precast concrete exterior panels had begun. The 58,000-square-foot Phoenix Temple is located at 5220 West Pinnacle Peak Road.

Both the Gilbert and Phoenix temple sites have visitors' trailers where displays are posted and questions may be answered. At the Phoenix site, hours are Monday–Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Monday–Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, by appointment. To schedule an appointment, call 623-587-5565 or 760-212-5973.

At the Gilbert site, the hours are Monday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, 2 to 6 p.m.

Construction photos and information about temples around the world can be found at http://www.ldschurchtemples.com (not an official site of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints). Official announcements and statements about the purpose of temples and why we build temples, is available at: www.lds.org/church/temples

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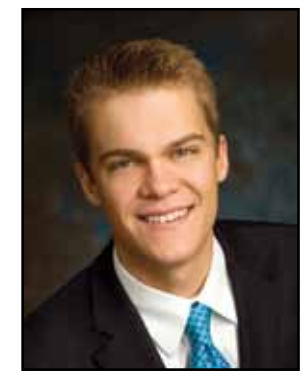

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Baltic Mission

Kevin Pett
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Idaho, Boise

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LDS Woman's

New Games

were Inspired by Her Mother, a Well-Known Mennonite Author

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

For many years, the category word game they played in their family was fondly referred to as "Mother's Game." Now, that and another game her mother invented have been reproduced by Marcia Kauffman Clark, of the Del Rio Ward, Tempe Stake, and have been published through Digital Legend Press with the names, "Word Possible" and Tanome.

This isn't the first time Sister Clark had looked to her mother for inspiration. Marcia's mother, Christmas Carol Kaufmann, was the most prolific author in the Mennonite world. As Sister Clark learned about the LDS faith, she continued to rely on what she had learned as a child.

"I was taught by their example to love the Lord with all my heart," she says. With the strong foundation of her childhood, when Marcia met with the LDS missionaries, "I was like a sponge, taking it all in; finally having all the pieces to my 'search for truth puzzle.' The more I was taught the more peace I felt inside."

As a tribute, in 2010, Sister Clark published a book about her mother's life, titled *The Carol of Christmas: The Life Story of Christmas Carol Kauffman.* She has also published two volumes of her mother's stories: *Comin' Home Soon and Other Short Stories, Vol. I and Vol. II.*

Sister Clark explains that the release of the two games is yet another way to honor and to share her mother's talents with the world.

"Mother's mind was endlessly creative. We often played games as a family around the kitchen table after supper," Sister Clark says.

The game now known as "Word Possible" grew out of her mother's innovation.

"One day, when I was in first grade, Mother couldn't decide which game to take to our MYF [Mennonite Youth Fellowship] get together the coming week," Sister Clark recalls. "Mother's brain went into its intellectual spin as we cut out little squares of white cardboard and wrote out various categories as she thought them up. She called out each category she came up with; and we even joined in and gave her our ideas. We actually started playing the game as it was being created and it became our 'family game.'"

The result, says Sister Clark was a game that is universally appealing. "Age or skill is no concern," Sister Clark says. Instead, "this exciting game is a perfect way to spend more quality time as a family and with friends. Adults love this just as much as the children do."

Photo courtesy Digital Legend Press

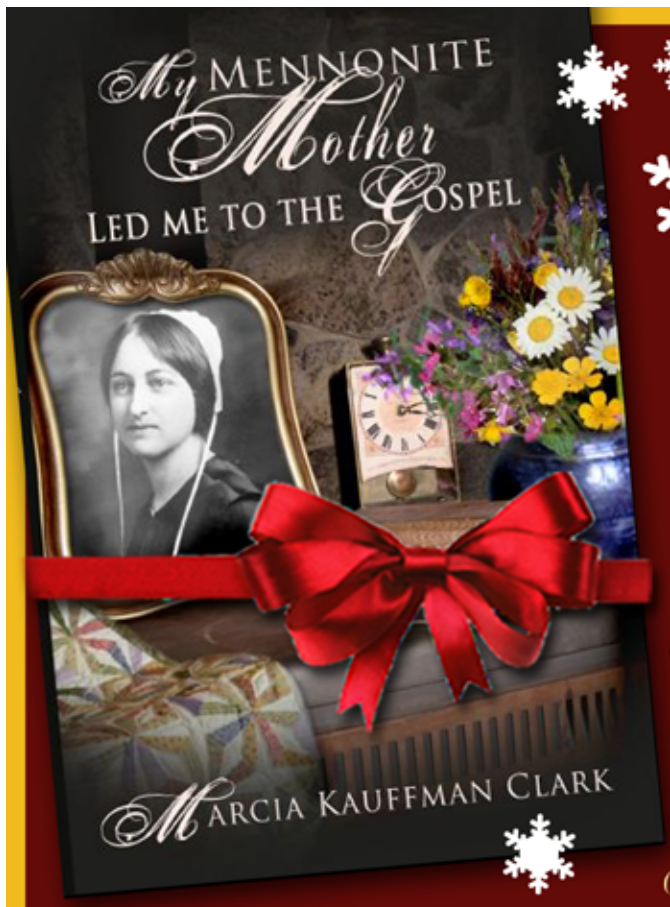
Marcia Kauffman Clark recently released two games that were inspired by her mother, the famous Mennonite author, Christmas Carol Kauffman.

"Word Possible helps develop memory within the brain and cherished family memories all at the same time."

Tanome (To Know Me), too, is a great family game, Sister Clark says. "It's a wonderful, endearing way to learn to know each other better."

"Now when friends and family come over to our home to eat, we clear the table and play both of them with everyone after supper, just as I did growing up in Hannibal, Missouri."

She also hopes the games will encourage families to spend time together. "Quality time is the best of the best and creates cherished memories," she says.



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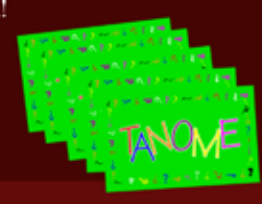

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The Memory Catcher

Shares Woman's Crusade to Protect the Unborn and Stand for the Sanctity of Life

Photo courtesy Spring Creek Books

Sarah Hinze and her daughter, Laura Lofgreen, have recently published a book called The Memory Catcher, which is about Sarah's life and her three decades of work speaking for unborn children and teaching the concept of the preexistence.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

For three decades, in countless articles, radio and television interviews and conferences across the nation, Sarah Hinze has presented her groundbreaking research—and her profound testimony—on "prebirth experiences."

Her books, including *Coming from the Light* and *We Lived in Heaven: Spiritual Accounts of Souls Coming to Earth* have provided the evidence she has gathered over the years to show that unborn children can warn, protect and enlighten us from another plane of existence.

"Basically, I've been teaching the concept of the preexistence to the national market," Sarah says. "As

Continued on pg. 33

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Two Top Branson Acts – The Dutton Family & George Dyer – Return to Arizona for Winter Tour

The Duttons, with «grandma and grandpa» Sheila and Dean Dutton (far right), are a world-renowned, three-generation performing group that performs in Branson, Missouri, during the summer and, for the seventh year, will return to Arizona with three highly entertaining shows that they will share with Arizona audiences this winter.

Photo by Mark Mabry

George Dyer, acclaimed as a top showman and masterful tenor, returns to Mesa this winter where he will perform three different entertaining and uplifting shows during December through March.

Photo by Marshall Meadows Photography

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The Dutton Family and George Dyer--two of the top acts that perform in the country's entertainment mecca of Branson, Missouri, during the summer—move to Arizona in the winter, where they share their musical talents in public concerts and private parties across the state.

The Duttons, a three-generation group of family singers and instrumentalists, have become widely known as they have traveled more than a million miles across the United States, toured Europe and Canada, been featured on four PBS television specials and were one of the top ten finalists on NBC's "America's Got Talent." They are returning for their seventh season in Arizona.

"We absolutely love the people and the community as a whole. We have made a lot of really good friends and loyal fans in Arizona. They keep coming to our shows and keep bringing new people," Ben Dutton says.

He says The Dutton Family presents "a show that is sure to entertain all ages. It's great to bring families to."

"There is such a variety and each song features something different—a surprise on every corner," Ben says.

The surprises and unique entertainment value come from the many styles of music they share and the fact that each of the main family performers play six or seven different instruments. "Sometimes we sing a cappella, or we play each other's instruments, or switch instruments in the middle of the song," Ben says.

Sheila and Dean Dutton are the first generation, the parents and grandparents of the rest of the group. While they were not professional musicians and didn't plan to raise their children as such, they seem to love it more each year. "We are thrilled with the response this year. We always get positive comments, but people who have seen the Branson show love the pace of the show, the numbers and everything we offer," Sheila says.

"All three generations work together to have a really fun show," Ben explains. The family has worked hard to balance the numbers so the grandchildren play a part in the show, but aren't overused; while teenagers and moms and dads also are entertained. "There is truly something for every age," Ben says.

The Duttons will again perform in their East Mesa theater, with shows in

Continued on pg. 33

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1 cup Ziti (3 oz.)
1/3 cup Honeyville Freeze Dried Mushrooms
2/3 cup Honeyville Freeze Dried Mozzarella Cheese

Directions: Place contents of jar (except for cheese) in a covered skillet or pot with 4 ½ c water. Simmer 15-20 minutes until pasta is tender and sauce is thick. (Solar oven 30-40 minutes covered). Place contents of cheese bag in a bowl and spray lightly with water. Sit for 5 minutes. Uncover cooked pasta mixture. Top with cheese. Cover again and allow cheese to melt, about 5 minutes.

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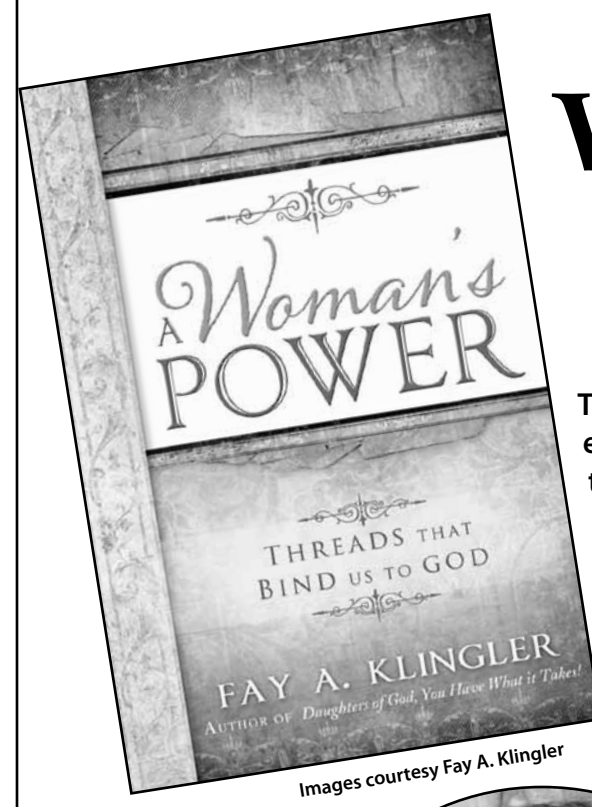

Images courtesy Fay A. Klingler

This year's League of Utah Writers' 2012 Silver Quill Nonfiction Publications Award given went to Fay A. Klingler, for her new book, *A Woman's Power: Threads that Bind Us to God.*

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Fay A. Klingler, who has distinguished herself for writing about women's issues—from time management to divorce and to depression—recently released a book about the particular strength of women, called A Woman's Power: Threads that Bind Us to God.

The writing seemed to have a power of its own from the start, says author Fay A. Klingler of her most recent book, *A Woman's Power: Threads that Bind Us to God* (CFI, a division of Cedar Fort, $15.99).

"I felt driven to write this book," she says. In fact, she explains, after some difficult situations in dealing with publishers in the past, "I had decided I wasn't going to write anymore at all."

Yet, not only did she feel an "overwhelming desire to write" *A Woman's Power,* Sister Klingler says she also, "had the outline given to me by Heavenly Father. I couldn't deny that the spirit was telling me what to write."

Now, that power, along with Sister Klingler's determination and talent for sharing insightful messages has not only carried the book through to publication, but has earned it the 2012 Silver Quill Non-fiction Publications Award given annually by the League of Utah Writers.

Also, in addition to the awards and public accolades, *A Woman's Power* continues to empower individual readers as well.

Laura Compton, in a review for the Association for Mormon Letters, writes, "In a sea of books aspiring to teaching women how to improve themselves and change their lives, Fay A. Klingler's *A Woman's Power* stands out for providing a number of practical and inspiring ways to develop spiritual, physical and emotional strength."

"Karen," who posted an Amazon.com review, wrote, "This book touched me—it moved my soul in ways I can't even begin to describe, and for the first time in ages, I feel a spark of power within me. I can do this."

With this and with previous books, Fay Klingler has demonstrated her ability to reach and touch women in various facets of their lives. Her *The LDS Grandparents' Idea Book* was a bestseller in its market. Shattered: Six Steps from Betrayal to Recovery was endorsed by many well-known national organizations and therapists. She's also written a Mother's Day booklet, and articles about time management for women and how to recover from divorce. (See www.fayklingler.com.)

Now a resident of Jordan, Utah, Sister Klingler grew up Arizona, went to Brigham Young University and returned to Arizona after she was married, left again for a time, then, after a divorce, returned as a single mom. "I had a marvelous experience with a ward there to get me through a difficult time," she says.

Continued on pg. 33

Keys to a Woman's Power
Continued from pg. 32

Sister Klingler says her life has had other great learning experiences that have brought her to a new understanding of who she is. "I felt inferior, always felt not good enough," she says. "I ultimately came to realize that I am a child of a loving God. It wasn't until I started hearing that Spirit that I really saw I had something to offer."

She hopes readers of *A Woman's Power* will understand and internalize the idea that: "The value of a woman's influence cannot be overstated. Women are the focal point of the home and focal point of society and can have more of an influence than anybody, or anything, anywhere," she says. "I hope they will realize they are important to Heavenly Father. Our value is great. We need to get a hold of that. We always put ourselves down and put ourselves aside."

Instead, "I want to spread the news. We are loved and we have so much power if we just recognize it."

A Woman's Power: Threads that Bind Us to God is available at LDS bookstores and on Amazon.com.

Two Top Branson Acts
Continued from pg. 30

mid-December through mid-March.

Performing on other nights in the same theater will be George Dyer, a master entertainer, who has been acclaimed as one of the finest tenors in the world and compared to Bobby Darin, Josh Groban and Michael Buble'. For the past three years, George has performed at the Dutton Family's Branson Theater, where, in his first year, he won 11 Branson show awards, including Best Morning Show and Best New Show.

He says Arizona audiences who again come to his show at the Dutton Family Theater in East Mesa will see "versatility—both vocal and genre versatility. The show includes a wide spectrum, with everything from opera, to ballads, classic standards, oldies, Broadway tunes and pop."

George will present three different shows during his Arizona tour and will appear at various private and company parties and events.

He says audiences at his shows will "laugh a lot, be moved, inspired, and leave feeling great. It's an experience they won't forget."

"We would like to have every seat filled," he says. George will perform his Christmas show on December 21 and his last Arizona show will be March 18. For a complete list of dates and for tickets to the George Dyer Arizona show, call 480-745-0347 or visit www.GeorgeDyer.com.

For tickets to the Dutton Family Show, visit www.TheDuttons.com or call 480-840-MUSIC (6874).

The Memory Catcher
Continued from pg. 29

members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we know this incredible truth."

Now, Sarah and her daughter, Laura Lofgreen, both members of the Mesa 18th Ward, Mesa East Stake, have completed another book. Called *The Memory Catcher,* it is about Sarah's own life.

"My publisher, Chad Daybell," asked me to do this book," Sarah says. "I had always felt a need to speak for unborn children, but I never thought about doing it from the angle of writing about my life."

Yet, it was her life experiences, particularly her miscarrying a child that started her quest to understand where our children come from before they are born.

Working together, Sarah often narrating, while Laura sat at the computer, the mother and daughter pieced together the key experiences that shaped Sarah's life and led to her becoming one of the world's greatest advocates of the unborn.

Carolyn Webb, PhD, says the result is powerful.

"The Memory Catcher is a precious, uplifting love story as well as a study of prebirth angels," Dr. Webb writes. "I thoroughly enjoyed it. This book is intimate, humble, picturesque, so that all things are visible through Sarah and Laura's words– they write like an angel appears – always bridging two worlds."

Sarah says her 30-year work of gathering and sharing "prebirth" experiences has helped in other ways as well.

"I've heard from so many people how their hearts have changed. Thy look at adoption differently; they look at abortion differently. They see protecting the unborn as the spiritual subject it is," Sarah says. "We're children of God, and conception and bringing children to the earth is a sacred honor and responsibility."

Sarah also created her Changing Hearts Foundation to teach that there is hope and healing after abortion or giving a baby up for adoption.

"The Savior wants you to heal, to forgive yourself and to have joy in your life."

Sarah says, writing *The Memory Catcher* revealed the full "tapestry" of her life.

"We often see the underside of the tapestry and it's not very pretty. Through this book, I saw the pattern of my life, and that God has a beautiful plan for all of us."

The Memory Catcher is available at www.SpringCreekBooks.com, Barnes and Noble, various LDS bookstores and at www.amazon.com, where the Kindle version may be ordered as well.

To contact Sarah about participating in book club discussions or workshops, or to share "prebirth" stories, email sarah@sarahhinze.com or call 480-882-8364. To learn more, visit www.sarahhinze.com and friend Sarah Hinze on Facebook.

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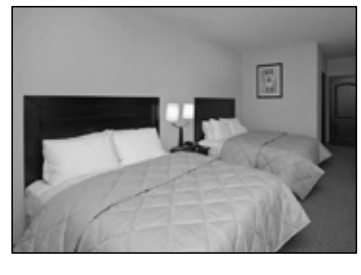

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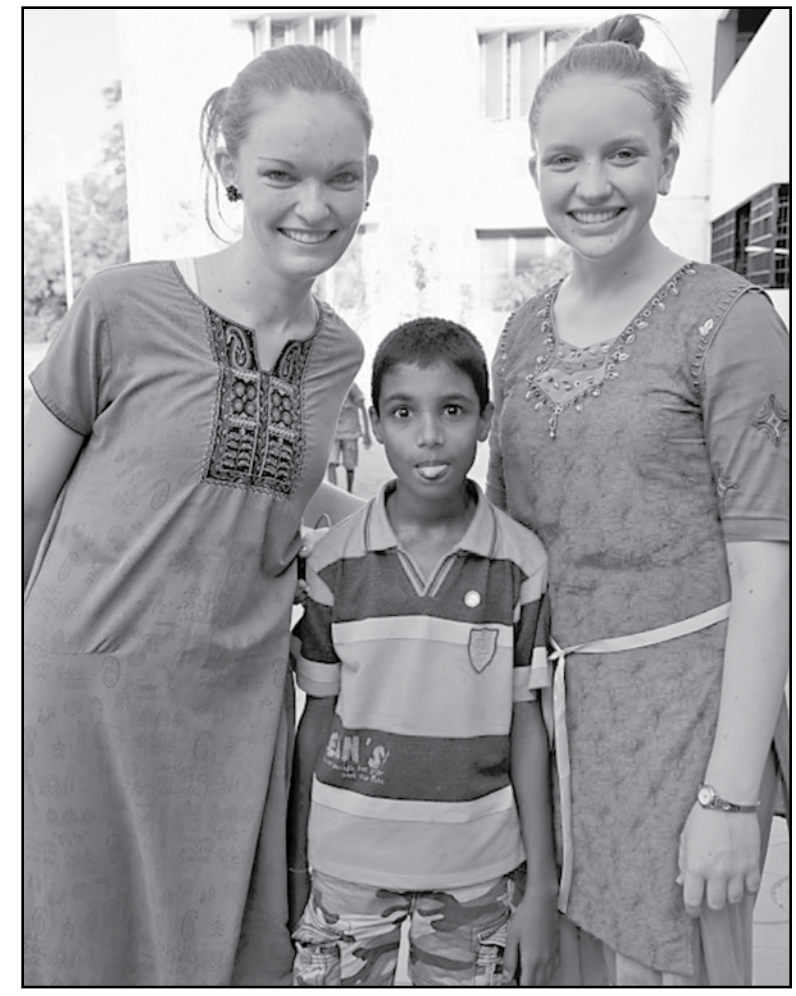

Photo courtesy Sharon Parry

Sisters Andrea (left) and Ashon (right) Parry say they will be forever grateful for being able to take a service trip with Rising Star Outreach to India.

By Stacy Johnson
The Beehive

Two sisters, Ashton Parry, of the Woodglen Park Ward in the Mesa Arizona Alma Stake, and Andrea Parry, of the YSA Southshore Ward in the Tempe Arizona YSA Stake, say they learned important lessons about Christ-like service when they worked as volunteers with Rising Star Outreach.

The program, which has been active for more than 10 years, was founded by Becky Douglas after a trip to India where she saw firsthand the deplorable conditions of those suffering from leprosy. The program's four initiatives are to 1) to provide economic rehabilitation through micro-grants, 2) offer medical care through medical mobile units, 3) educate children to become productive citizens and 4) encourage life-long humanitarians by providing service opportunities for volunteers.

The organization has a 13.5-acre site with a school built on it, that is run by a staff of more than 60. The school includes separate dorms for boys and girls, volunteer accommodations, a dining hall and meditation room. The children attending the school have parents who live in the leprosy colony. Leprosy is a disease that causes ulcers, deformities, loss of digits on the hands, feet and body. Fortunately, the disease can be cured with medication and proper hygiene. However, in India, and other countries the leprosy is considered a curse, and, carries with it a social stigma that, in most cases, cannot be reversed.

As volunteers, the girls dressed in the native clothing of India, the chudidar. Half of their week they spent in the school, offering the children tutoring in reading, English and math.

"The kids were so excited to see us, they would run to us and hug us," Andrea said.

Ashton adds, "I was grateful to see how eager the kids were to show us love and be happy, considering their circumstances."

The other days, the sisters rode out into the colony to assist the medical teams. They helped clean wounds, taught hygiene skills and provided self-help bags filled with ointment and additional bandages.

Ashton explains that because Rising Star Outreach provides medication and

Continued on pg. 35

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Group Announces its 2012

TRAINS IN THE GARDEN

Annual Christmas Open House Tours

Photo courtesy of Arizona Big Train Operators

The Trains in the Garden Annual Christmas Open House will again feature a tour of G-scale garden railroad layouts at various locations around the Valley.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The Arizona Big Train Operators, a 501C organization, will again host the Trains in the Garden Annual Christmas Open House Tours—with train layouts that are fun for children of all ages.

This year, the tour will include 15 homes with G-scale garden railroads in their backyards and a children›s medical center with its indoor garden railroad.

The homes are located in the Phoenix area, and in Gilbert, Mesa, Scottsdale, Sun Lakes, Chandler, Gold Canyon and San Tan Valley.

At members' homes, visitors to the displays may walk around and see all of the layouts with cities, towns and landscaped gardens and also adorned with holiday lights and decorations. At the Cardon Children›s Medical Center, the railroad has three trains plus a trolley running through a large display of outstanding scenery.

The displays will be open the second and third weekends of December and most will open from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For more information, including maps and videos of the locations, and specified times for certain displays, visit www.azbigtrains.org and click on the Christmas train. Information is also available on their Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/HolidayGarden-Trains.

There is no charge to see these railroads, but tax-deductible donations are accepted at each site and are used to support Arizona Big Train Operators Club (ABTO) to benefit the promotion of garden railroading and maintaining the indoor garden railroad at Cardon Children's Medical Center.

Sisters Serve in Leprosy Colony
Continued from pg. 34

education, "over time, they realize that they can take care of themselves and require less care from others, giving them the confidence they desperately need."

Andrea adds, "While I was there, I did something Christ actually did while he was on the earth as I washed the feet of those with leprosy. It has changed the way I will serve in the future."

"These people live amidst trash and in mud huts. They have nothing, but they are the happiest people I have ever met. It has made me aware of how much I take for granted," says Andrea.

Ashton acknowledged that while she was there to serve others, she feels like she gained the "confidence to serve anywhere, anytime."

In addition to their service, the girls spent time in Delhi and Chennai participating in Church services and witnessing the gospel in action on the other side of the world. The girls say they were impressed with the people's knowledge of the gospel and how sincere their testimonies were.

"We've heard about the Church spreading throughout the world, but to actually see and be a part of it was amazing" says Andrea.

The service provided by the Parry sisters may have been a benefit to the people of India, but what they brought home was a blessing in their own lives as well.

"We are deeply grateful for the opportunity we had to serve and encourage others to reach out and do the same."

For more information, about Rising Star Outreach, visit www.risingstaroutreach.org or read about the Parry sister's experiences on their blog, at www.sistersnindia.wordpress.com.

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Rhyme and Reason

By Linda Turley-Hansen

Principal of "Coolest School" adds Bishop to his Job Description

It's always said, if you need a job done well, find the busiest person around.

Meet principal, Mike Oliver. Ten years ago, Oliver was handed a brand new grade school located in the shadows of the Red Mountains, northeast of Mesa.

There, he's molding his dreams of creating the "premier school in all America."

And, now, this busy Gilbert resident has been called as bishop in the Gilbert 4th Ward, Val Vista Stake.

But, first, about his day job: In August, Zaharis Grade School garnered national attention when "Scholastic Parent & Child Magazine" recognized it as one of the top 25 "coolest schools" in the nation.

It should be noted, outside attention isn't new to Zaharis. National and international guests are regular visitors. In fact, last year, a dozen top school administrators from Russia dropped in to find out how schools work in a democracy.

In fair disclosure, I discovered Zaharis Elementary because my granddaughter, 9-year-old Payton, is a student.

She says, "I like how they run the school; each child gets equal amounts of attention."

Nine hundred students converge on classrooms, each school day. One-third live outside the boundaries, in eight different cities, with parents willing to shuttle their children.

"What and why?" I asked Oliver. "What's going on with Zaharis?"

Oliver said, "It's all about motivated students whose curiosity and learning styles are honored and about helping them apply today's world to Common Core education standards (azed.gov/common core standards).

It goes something like this: Certain national and state standards must be met. We hear all about rigorous AIMS prep instruction. But, at Zaharis, the "curriculum of caring" philosophy trumps children's learning abilities beyond testing indoctrination.

Oliver said, "We all are familiar with Einstein's take on measurement: 'Not everything that can be measured counts and not everything that counts can be measured,'"—at least via scores A through F.

However, Oliver has an additional measuring system: "Every time I walk in a classroom, I see new eyes."

He explained: "We want children who raise questions, investigate, problem solve and interrogate the world around them. We call this a curriculum of becoming. It's dynamic, alive, and fluid."

Classrooms are filled with what Oliver called; "real books" specifically selected to address family and societal challenges. Constant, respectful discussion and activities make sense out of real, world issues.

Happy parents and students are the telling factor. Check out the Zaharis website at www.mpsaz.org/zaharis/.

Oliver, who grew up on the west side of Phoenix, is married to Trish, his "dream" girl, and is the father of four. As earlier mentioned, this past June, the busy educator, was called to serve as bishop.

When asked how he intend to do both, keep up with his "cool school" and keep a ward running, he reflected, "A busy man who has an eternal perspective is busy doing things of great value. It's not enough to be busy…. we're all busy. The question is what are we being busy about?"

And how does he handle the stress?

"It was once said that 'life is neither bad nor good. It waits for our decree,'" he said. "I decree that life is wonderful. And because of the love and mercy of The Atoning One —it is. Even on the most challenging days!"

Now we know why this husband-father-bishop-principal is so "cool."

Linda Turley-Hansen is a syndicated columnist and retired Phoenix TV anchor. (turleyhansen@gmail.com)

Former Bank VP opens Piefection Pie Shop in Mesa

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

With a donation of a couple dozen signature pies for a benefit event Nov. 2, and a gala grand opening the next day, Cheryl Standage introduced her new scratch bakery and one-of-a-kind pie shop, just in time for the holidays.

Putting pies on the Mesa map wasn't what Cheryl set out to do. In fact, she built a career as a successful vice-president with World Savings and Wachovia. Yet, as a lifelong foodie, moving from banker to baker seemed to fit her to—"Piefection."

After taking a hiatus from the corporate world for a couple of years, Cheryl says, "I knew when I went back to work it had to be in the food industry somehow."

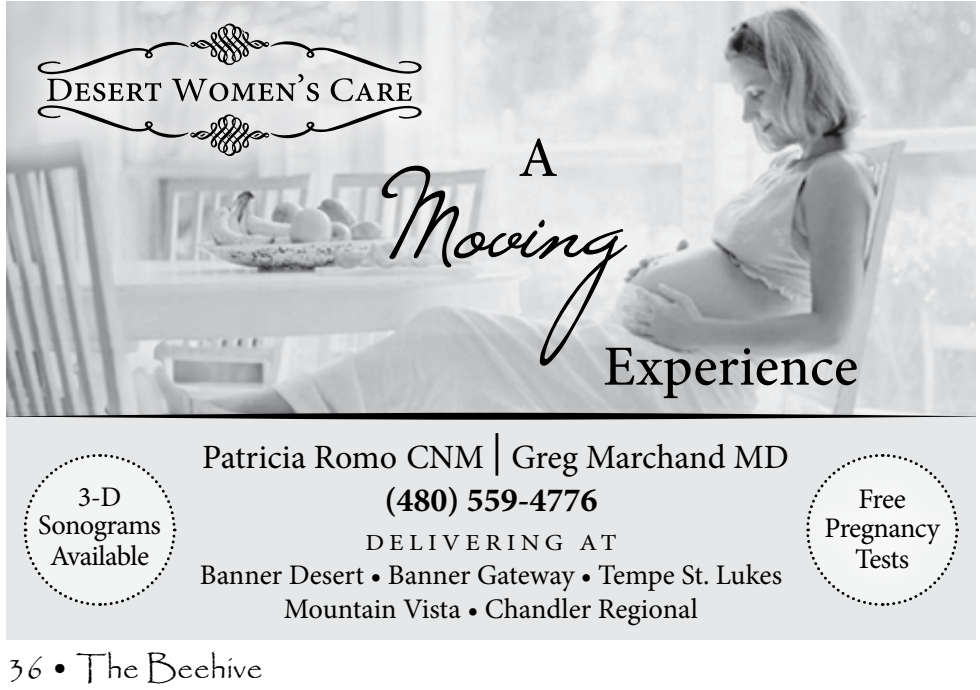
The shop she opened features whole pies to go, in 30 different varieties made from scratch in-house daily. "We use no preservatives or additives and only the finest ingredients around--freshly ground nutmeg, real butter, real whipping cream," Cheryl says.

Among the favorites are coconut cream, banana cream, chocolate cream, lemon meringue, pumpkin, apple, peach and triple berry.

"We also have a plethora of upscale specialty pies," including white chocolate raspberry, lemon blueberry sour cream, pumpkin cheesecake, southern pecan, and French silk," Cheryl says.

"In addition to whole pies, we make rolls—white and wheat—and chicken and turkey pot pies to either 'take and bake' or 'baked off and ready to eat.'"

Located at 6731 E. Brown Road (southwest corner of Power and Brown roads), Piefection is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For quantity orders, call 480-218-7437. Learn more at piectionaz.com or visit facebook.com/piefectionPieShop.



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From the Editor's Desktop

By Cecily Markland

What is a Nation To Do?

What's a nation to do?

I'm writing this less than 24 hours after the news that Barack Obama would serve another term as president of the United States.

I'm still a little stunned.

Yet, I'm in no way a political pundit. I have opinions of what is best, but I don't profess to know how it all fits together and what may happen next. What I do know is that we are reminded time and again that we need to refrain from putting out trust in the arm of the flesh. Regardless of this election, God—our loving and all-knowing Heavenly Father—is in charge and, therefore, we can readily say "all is right with the world."

Two things, in particular, struck me in what I read and heard today. First, one was written by Steve Elliott of Grassfire Nation. His entire message was insightful, (see "Four More Years – What it Means" at grassrootsactionalert.com) but the part that meant the most to me was his explanation of "why I'm building."

He described a letter written 2,500 years ago to Jewish exiles "who had been pushed out of Jerusalem and forced to live under a tyrannical ruler named Nebuchadnezzar."

Jeremiah wrote to them, saying "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11.)

Elliott writes: "Those words sound so good. The future is bright. God has a plan for prosperity, for a real hope and a real future." Yet, he says, those words need to be understood in context. Later in chapter 29, it reads: … the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise…"

"The plan was 70 years of exile," Elliott says. "Not only was the exile going to last 70 years, the exile WAS the plan!"

In Jeremiah 29:4, the Lord gives the exiles specific instructions on how to conduct themselves:

--Build houses and settle down.
--Plant gardens and eat what they produce.
--Marry and have sons and daughters.
--Marry off your sons and daughters so they can have children.
--Increase in number; do not decrease.

"…the directive is to build families, grow businesses, think transgenerationally and increase," says Elliott, and: "Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

The instructions came again-- loud and clear—and very similar--from another source today. In a statement from the First Presidency of the Church: "… this is now a time for Americans to come together. It is a long tradition among Latter-day Saints to pray for our national leaders in our personal prayers and in our congregations. We invite Americans everywhere, whatever their political persuasion, to pray for the President, for his administration and the new Congress as they lead us through difficult and turbulent times."

The instructions are simple and clear. What is a nation to do? Pray. And then build.

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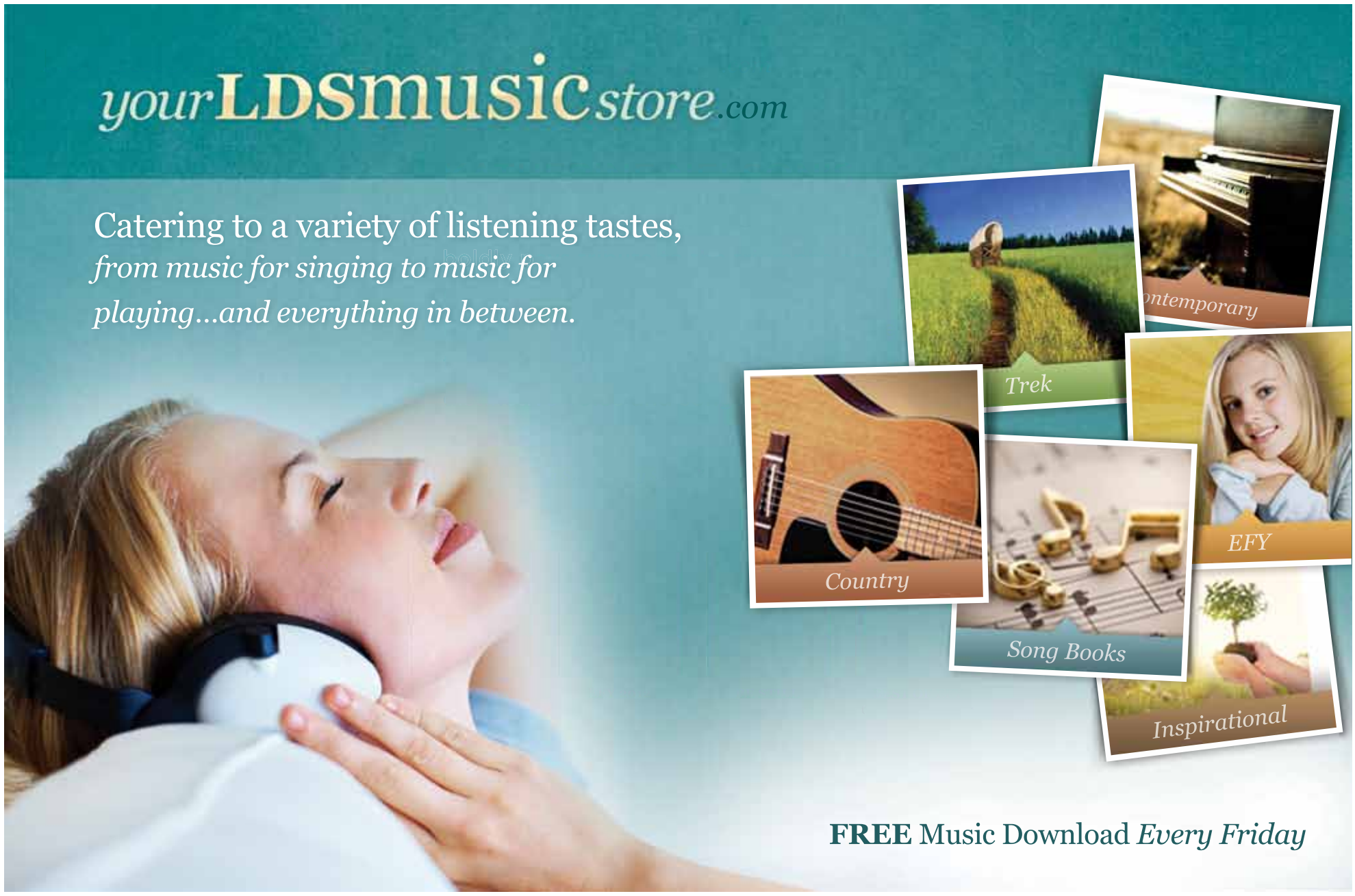

Fat Tree

Clean Rocking Family Band Nominated for L.A. Music Awards

Photo by J. Ashton Photography

The musical group, Fat Tree--with (l to r) Kyle Jacobs, lead singer and keyboard player; Sam Bischoff, lead singer and guitar player; Eric Jacobs, lead singer and five-string bass player and Sam Jacobs, drummer--was nominated for two Los Angeles Music Awards this year.

By Cindy R. Williams
The Beehive

Fat Tree, a band based in Phoenix, Ariz., was nominated for two Los Angeles Music Awards, in this year's Music Group and Music Video categories, with their hit song, "Losin' My Mind."

Fat Tree is known for no cursing, profanity, or vulgar lyrics, along with clean and uplifting music for the entire family. The rock band also uses unique instrumentation, including trashcan drums.

"We've worked hard at this music and this dream since we were little kids," says Kyle Jacobs, who, with Sam and Eric, is one of three Jacob brothers in the band that also includes their childhood friend, Sam Bischoff. They four have played together since 2002.

However, Fat Tree took a break for a few years. Eric says, "Our LDS missions were our intermission; then we came back together."

"We have a piano rock vibe and incorporate all sorts of genres into our writing from Reggae to pop to Latin to Funk to rock and back again," says Kyle.

"We want to share our positive music with the world," adds Sam Bischoff.

"We all grew up in Alamogordo, New Mexico, famous for white sands. Alamogordo means fat Cottonwood tree, so we decided to use Fat Tree," says Kyle.

Kyle, a Primary chorister in the Skyline Stake, sings lead and is classically trained on the piano.

Eric, a member of the Mesa East Stake and second counselor in his

Continued on pg. 40

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Author Teaches Teens How to Access their "SUPERPOWERS"

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Author Steve Gardner confronts the challenges facing teenagers today and inspires them to overcome adversity and current social trends in his book, *Your Superpowers*.

An experienced teacher and motivational speaker, Gardner was inspired to write *Your Superpowers* when someone close to him started to struggle with grades and self-esteem.

"Anyone who knows or cares about a teenager has seen it before: outgrowing childhood confidence, struggling with grades or bullies at school," says Gardner.

He says his book is designed to "help them help themselves," by showing teens how to unlock abilities they are probably not even unaware of.

"This process can apply to anyone—from preteens to adults. By shifting their perspective they can create the life they want," Gardner says.

The book personalizes the topic, by showing what happens to one teenager as he comes to understand and apply his "inner powers." The author demonstrates in easy-to-understand terms how everyone can harness this knowledge and benefit from it.

A resident of Rexburg, Idaho, Gardner has taught thousands of youth in Europe, Asia, and America over the past 12 years. Since the book's publication, "I've seen an incredible response from youth and adults alike," he says.

Among the many responses was one from a 10-year-old girl who wrote Gardner a handwritten letter thanking him for the book. *Your Superpowers* also has received endorsements from well-known authors, including Jack Canfield, Joe Vitale, Sean Covey and Brad Wilcox.

Still, Gardner says, "There's nothing more gratifying than seeing teenagers pick up and completely read through the book. It takes only a few hours, but it can change them dramatically," he says. "It really is incredible. It is a wonderful process!"

Your Superpowers is available on amazon.com, InglestonePublishing.com and Steve Gardner's website: www.discoveringlifenow.com.

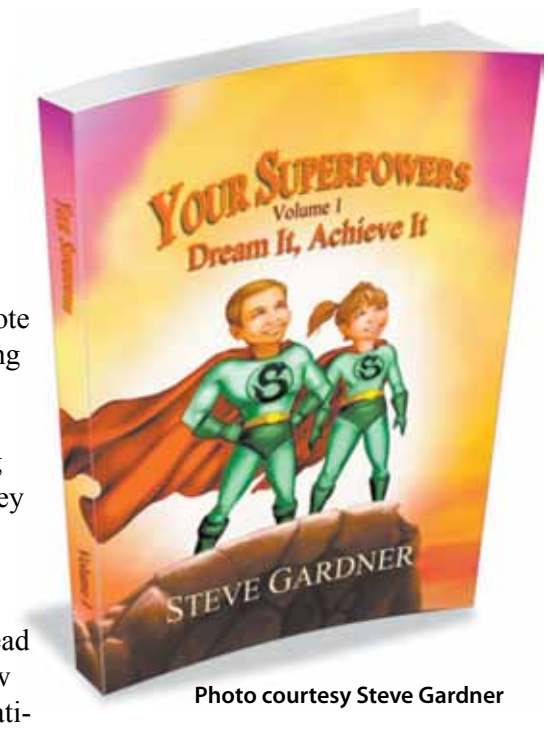

Photo courtesy Steve Gardner

Steve Gardner's book, *Your Superpowers*, teaches young teens how to access their own "superpowers" by explaining the basics of empowerment and effective thinking and the importance of expressing gratitude of of including Heavenly Father in the process.

Clean Rocking Family Band

Continued from pg. 39

ward's elders quorum, is a back-up singer and self-taught on the five-string bass. He plays by ear.

Sam Jacobs, of Chandler Stake, serves as elders quorum second counselor. Also self-taught, Sam plays drums and is known for his hats. "I like to wear hats. I can't change my hairdo because I'm bald so I wear hats," says Sam.

Sam Bischoff, who serves in the Sunday School presidency in the Mesa YSA East Stake, is a lead singer and is self-taught on the guitar. Growing up, he sang in the car and the shower.

Each of the band members has a fulltime day job. They rehearse two evenings a week in Sam Jacob's front room that is decked out like a stage with all their equipment.

Most of their songs are written by Kyle and Sam Bischoff, but, each band member works out his own parts.

"Sometimes I write lyrics in a notebook, but most of the time I come up with a riff on the guitar and get a feeling and idea for a song then the lyrics come as I write the music," says Sam. "Sometimes I write a whole song on a cow bell."

Kyle says, "I sometime write the lyrics first, then the music on the piano. Other times I write the music first. Once in a while, I write both at the same time."

Fat Tree's first album, "The Great Give and Take," is available for download on ITunes. The band is currently raising funds to record its next EP (extended play, five-song CD/album) and to market it to record management companies and record labels.

To book Fat Tree or to learn more, contact them at fattreemusic@gmail.com or on Facebook at Fat Tree.

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Deseret Industries

Blesses Lives & Builds Quality Employees

Photo courtesy Deseret Industries

In addition to offering a retail store front with new and slightly used items at low cost, Deseret Industries blesses countless lives by providing opportunities to serve and a job training program as well.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Deseret Industries is much more than a thrift store.

Indeed, says Craig Ahlstrom, president of the Mesa Lehi Arizona Stake and the agent stake president over the Mesa Deseret Industries, the enterprise functions as part of a Church-wide system and is overseen by the priesthood.

He explains that the Mesa store is in its 49th year of operation. Located at 1020 West Broadway, it is one of 43 DI stores in seven Western states and has approximately 19,000-square feet on the sales floor.

"When most people in the community think of DI, they think of the retail store," President Ahlstrom says. He adds that shoppers are drawn to the low prices and clean, manicured and organized look of the store. They find many items are new, while others are "gently used."

President Ahlstrom says members of the Church also recognize the "ever-present need for donating items to DI;" and he says this aspect "gives many an opportunity to share with others."

Yet, he continues, "That is only the beginning. One of the great missions of Deseret Industries is the job training program."

DI employees—or what they call "associates"—immediately begin a process of assessment and of learning new skills, "all with the purpose of becoming more self-reliant so that can get back into the work place."

Through classes and on-the-job training, associates begin from where they are—whether that means practicing foundational skills, such as getting to work on time or learning how to dress for work, or understanding how to communicate effectively, or even gaining hands-on managerial experience.

Store manager Scott Sessions says the process is extremely effective as the average length of time before individuals leave for outside job placement "is usually measured in months, not years."

President Ahlstrom says a "Business Partner Program" also allows businesses to submit requests for workers with certain skill sets. "Then we place people 'on loan' with that business. We pay their wages and unemployment insurance; so, the employer can see, on a trial basis, whether there's a good match for a permanent position."

The DI, which is part of the Church's "Bishop's Storehouse" program, is a well-functioning operation, so even items that can't be sold on the retail floor are recycled and sold as rags or scrap metal.

"We recycle and sell much more than we send to the landfill," President Ahlstrom says.

Bishops are able to write orders for ward members who come in to DI for clothing, bedding and other items. "If someone is in need, they can go to their bishop anytime." He says there are also various volunteer opportunities for wards, stakes or for individual couples who serve as missionaries at DI; and, he adds, donations are always welcome.

"We are grateful to see the generosity of the community every day. As individuals provide that kind of support, we can continue giving support to others."

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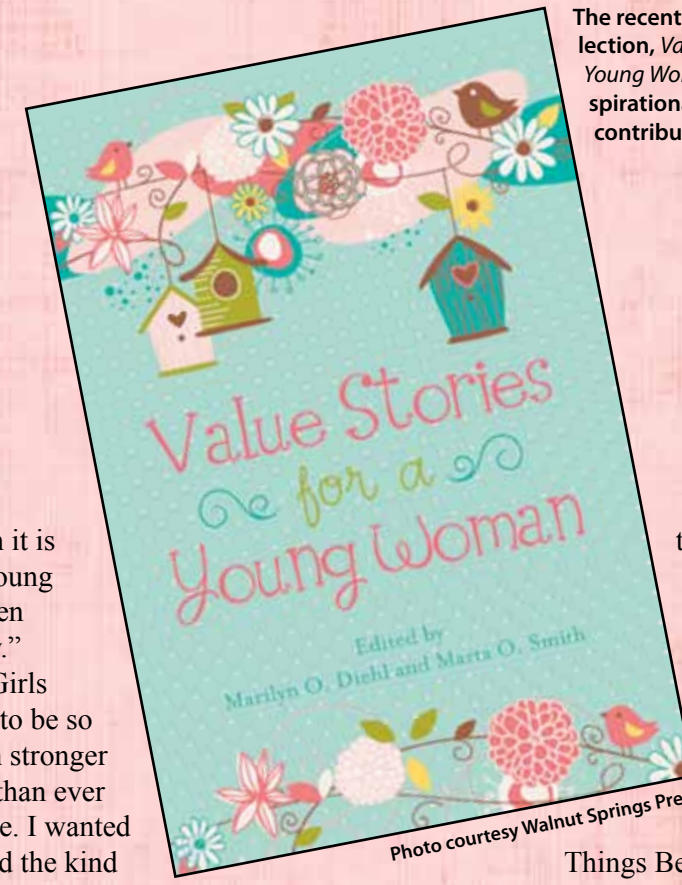
New Book Shares True Stories Based on Young Women Values



The recently published collection, *Values Stories for a Young Woman*, includes inspirational stories from four contributors from Arizona.

Photo courtesy Walnut Springs Press

By Darcy Woods
The Beehive

Values Stories for a Young Woman is a collection of true, inspirational stories based on the eight LDS Young Women values. The collection is meant to uplift, entertain and encourage, while showing practical applications of the Young Women values.

Sisters, Marta O. Smith and Marilyn O. Diehl, collected and edited the stories.

"Marta is the oldest, and I am the seventh of nine children," says Marilyn. Both live in Idaho for most of the year, although Marilyn spends part of the year in Gila Bend, Ariz.

The idea for the book came from the publisher.

"At the 2010 LDStorymakers Writers Conference, we met Linda Prince from Walnut Springs. She was looking for an author to take on a nonfiction book that contained true stories about the Young Women values and Marilyn said we could do it," Marta explains.

The sisters began to collect true stories from their families and friends and then put the word out at Church and writers' groups. Marta also went "blog trolling," reading post after post to find just the right stories.

Marta says, "I wanted to put together the kind of book that I wish someone would have given me when I was a teenager. The more I researched and looked for stories, the more I saw how tough it is for young women today."

"Girls have to be so much stronger now than ever before. I wanted to find the kind of stories that would give young women courage in an increasingly challenging world. That's how I found one of my newest favorite scriptures, Deuteronomy 31:6. 'Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee,'" says Marta.

The compilers selected stores such as, "Weak Things Become Strong," by author Sarah Anderson, who tells how following through on a challenge from a Young Women's leader to read the Book of Mormon helped her to overcome a learning disability.

Continued on pg. 47

Annual Mesa Arizona Temple Garden Lights

Display Opens Nov. 23

Photo by Richard Webb

The annual Mesa Temple Garden Christmas Lights display features beautiful lighting and unique patterns throughout the garden areas as well as an exhibit of international nativity scenes inside the Visitors' Center.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Each year, for several weeks before Christmas, volunteers work in waves to hang lights and construct the displays that attract thousands each year to the Mesa Arizona Temple Gardens.

The result is an inviting and spectacular display of lights, a chance for visitors to stroll through gardens where they see unique and interesting patterns and colors, with lights along the ground, wrapped neatly around tree limbs and hung high overhead in the tall palm trees.

Started more than 30 years ago, the annual lights display is known as one of the largest volunteer-driven Christmas lights displays in the country.

According to temple volunteer, Dee Hobbs, the local units of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have specifically designed the annual event to convey a message of peace and goodwill and to share the true message and the wonder of the Christmas season.

Continued on pg. 47

2012 Temple Lights Christmas Concerts:

Dec 1	Skyline High School Chorale
Dec 2	Rob Gardner and the Spire Choir
Dec 3	Mesa High School Acapella Choir
Dec 4	Westwood High School Honor Choir
Dec 5	CGCC College Singers
Dec 6	Firefly—Merchant Sisters
Dec 7	Red Mountain High School—La Camarata
Dec 8	Chandler Children's Choir
Dec 9	St Anne's Catholic Church and Gilbert Stake
Dec 10	Notations—Vocal Group
Dec 11	Grace United Methodist Church Chancel Choir and Canterbury Bells
Dec 12	Chamber String Ensemble—Selections from "The Messiah"
Dec 13	Coro Hispano—Adult and Children's Choir
Dec 14	Debbie West Coon--Vocalist
Dec 15	Marcus North—Vocal Group
Dec 16	Michelle Moyer—Vocalist
Dec 17	Jordan Bluth—Vocalist
Dec 18	Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix
Dec 19	Mountain View High School Chorale
Dec 20	Vanessa Joy and Marvin Goldstein
Dec 21	The Tyler and Linsey Maxson Family
Dec 22	The Sterling and Michele Baer Family
Dec 23	Reflections—Vocal Group
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In The Mommy Zone...

By Kristie Young Fairbanks

My 17-year-old son loves to run. Sometimes it seems, that he lives and breathes for the sport.

His passion revolves around the lonely sound of cross country flats pulsing the miles, coarse gravel crunching beneath them. His rhythmic breathing adds to the symphonic melody of his racing.

He thrives upon the fierce competition, deliciously relishing in the sights and sounds of his syncopated pace as he racks up incredible amounts of neverending mileage. He runs for the varsity high school team, motivated by his ferocious appetite to contend as a decorated winner.

It seems, he was born to run. His thin frame, lengthy stride, and intense aggressiveness compel him towards the finish line. Pounding the pavement is his adrenaline rush. Time and distance blur together as he glides effortlessly, streaking at lightning's pace, gracefully striking with his runner's tread.

But today, my heart aches for him. His life has changed in an instant. He now slowly creeps, ever so carefully, cautiously maneuvering his unstable body. The metallic crutches he now painstakingly bears are a heavy burden, a new obstacle he must patiently endure. The steady drone of metal scraping the Earth is deafening.

A longboarding accident has traumatized his left ankle, rendering it unnaturally swollen and bloated. It seems as if he has attached a hefty grapefruit to the outer side of his foot. The surrounding flesh is bluish and pale, swelling with thick inflammation and painful irritation. He winces as the crutches scrape, uneasy and wobbly in his forced predicament.

The x-rays reveal no broken bones, but a distal sprain that could involve torn ligaments. He is obviously out of commission for weeks, out of the running season, and out of options.

I struggle with the thought of him stuck with crutches, vulnerable and unsteady. I long to trade places with him. In an instant, I would willingly give up my mobility to ensure him pain free and running once more.

This morning, I accompanied him to school where he was given a nurse's pass, excusing him from acquiring future perpetual tardies as he tries to navigate through hundreds of fellow high school students unscathed. He was also entrusted with a coveted elevator key to help him maneuver the trek to his upstairs classes. Although the key is a desirable campus trinket, I know he would gratefully forfeit it in a heartbeat to be free from his fate.

As I watch him guardedly hobble towards his uncharted journey, I feel utterly helpless. I would gladly accompany him to each classroom, opening those massive metal doors, toting his heavy textbooks. I'm sure he would love for me to stand in the serpentine lunch line, securing a healthy meal and bulldozing a path for him through the endless sea of students. I'm sure he wouldn't mind having his mother roam the school halls, hovering over him daily for the next few weeks.

But I can't. I can't be his crutch today. I can't be his crutch tomorrow. He now has to depend upon his two metal crutches and I have to depend upon the charity of his fellow classmates.

I am now forced to watch him limp away, leaving me to wonder if anyone will take pity upon a young man in the prime of his youth, securing him with critical support in his time of need.

I stand at a loss, but he turns and gives me a wide toothy grin, harboring that competitive fire in his eyes that I recognize instantly. His new adventure awaits, now I just have to let him lean on his metallic crutches instead of me.

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CYBER SURFING

with
Jill B. Adair

Prominent Mormons found on the Internet

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has encouraged its members to create a personal profile and add their faces to the "I'm a Mormon" website, and more than 130,000 have already done so.

Launched two years ago, the Church's advertising and public relations campaign set out to introduce Latter-day Saints to others around the world.

The profiles, found at Mormon.org, tell a little about the individual – showing members' backgrounds and experiences are diverse – as well as give the opportunity for each individual to share testimony of the restored gospel in his or her life.

A recent Deseret News article highlighted 23 prominent Latter-day Saints whose profiles are listed on the website. I found the list interesting and enjoyed reading more about these prominent Church members.

Some I already knew were members—i.e., singer Alex Boye, pianist Jon Schmidt, Alan Osmond and former broadcast journalist Jane Clayson Johnson.

Others I wasn't so familiar with, including Brandon Flowers, the frontman of the rock band The Killers; Patrice Tipoki; who recently played the green witch in the popular production, "Wicked"; Jason F. Wright, journalist and bestselling author and Athelia Kaye Woolley LeSueur, NYC fashion designer. Also among those listed in the article were Olympian Lacey Nymeyer John; pro golfer Bruce Summerhays; pro rugby player William Hopoate; pro skateboarder Kevin Fedderson; pro surfer Joy Monahan and pro football player Rob Morris, who was with the Colts when they won Super Bowl XLI; and several other pro football standouts.

Another site for spotting notable LDS is FamousMormons.net. This website has been around for as long as I can remember being on the Internet and over the years it has compiled a long list of who's who.

Actors include Billy Barty (1924-2000), a 3'9"-tall actor who appeared in more than 200 films in his 70-year career; actor Wilford Brimley, who achieved star status in the 1980s with such films as "The Natural" and "Cocoon;" producer Kevin J. Foxe, executive producer of the independent film, "The Blair Witch Project;" and silent film star John Gilbert (1897-1936), who is noted as being the only LDS actor listed in the book, "The Film 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential People in the History of the Movies." Film producers listed on FamousMormons.net include Gary Kurtz, whose list of credits includes "American Graffiti," "Star Wars" and "The Empire Strikes Back;" and producer Jerry R. Molen, who won an Academy Award for producing "Schindler's List."

Other personalities include radio host and author Glenn Beck; siblings Derek and Julianne Hough, who are dancers on ABC's "Dancing with the Stars"; Stephenie Meyer, author of the bestselling "Twilight" series; mystery novelist Anne Perry, who has more than 26 million books in print worldwide; Brian Crane, whose daily comic strip, "Pickles," appears in hundreds of newspapers around the world; and soul superstar and eight-time Grammy winner Gladys Knight.

Editor's Note: This column is designed to provide Beehive readers with timesaving direction and ideas for safely and easily surfing the Internet. To suggest a topic for a future column or to share an interesting website with others, e-mail: 5adair@cox.net.

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Project Service: One Woman's Bid to Save the World

By Emily Robbins
The Beehive

Lindsey Hardison says, through some tough trials over the last few years, she has found strength and determination and has developed a true appreciation for service. Now she wants to share that appreciation through her new initiative, Project Service: Changing the world one hour at a time.

"The last several years have been the most challenging of my life," Lindsey wrote in a letter to friends and family. In the letter, she writes that she has been inspired by the support of her children and family members, and she learned important lessons from a recent seminar she attended.

Part of that seminar required participants to take on a community project. For Lindsey, her project was obvious; she wanted to encourage people to serve others—if only for an hour at a time.

Since service has played such an important role in her life, she wants other people to know the power service can have.

"I really want people to realize they can make a difference," she says. "And that, collectively, we can make a difference in the entire world."

Lindsey set up a Facebook page for the group, as a forum for people to pledge their service and then to report on it. She is asking each person who pledges to complete and report their service by January 2013, by leaving a comment on the Facebook page and telling how they served and how that service impacted the recipient.

While Lindsey wanted Project Service to be a national service project, it has already exceeded that, and has had a global impact.

A woman in England loved the idea of Lindsey's project and is getting it started in two of her local elementary schools.

"The amazing thing about this project is that not only do you get to serve but you also get to read about others' service," Lindsey says.

She says she recently went through a divorce that changed her life drastically. She went from being a stay-at-home-mom who was considering a career in nutrition, to being a mom who works full-time in real estate and is in the process of moving to a new home.

"One day, I literally got to pick my kids up from my parents' house and put them straight in bed, and I just bawled," Lindsey says. "Then I went in and checked on the Facebook group, and I was so inspired by what people were up to and their willingness to serve."

For her, participating in service is about more than helping another person.

"It helps my kids by teaching them to serve; it helps me get through the hard times and it's what matters; service can make a difference," she said. "It's just what we do."

Anyone interested in participating should pledge to do at least one hour of service. Service-minded individuals of all ages are invited to join in. Lindsey says even her two five-year-olds are planning projects.

To join the community and pledge your service, go to Facebook.com, and search "Project Service: Changing the world one hour at a time."

Photo by Tiffany Haynes

Lindsey Hardison mounted a "Project Service" campaign on Facebook to encourage others to find the same kind of peace and fulfillment service has brought into her life.

President Monson Dedicates 140th Temple

Thomas S. Monson, president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, dedicated the Calgary Alberta Temple, the 140th temple in the Church, on Sunday, 28 October 2012.

Assisting President Monson for the traditional cornerstone ceremony prior to the dedication were Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, Elder Craig C. Christensen and Elder William R. Walker of the Seventy and temple president and matron, Blair S. and Mary Jane C. Bennett.

During the traditional cornerstone ceremony where the final block is cemented in place, President Monson said to those gathered, "Remember what you feel here as well as what you see here. This is a very good occasion."

"I think we have had the privilege and opportunity to dispel a lot misconceptions," explained Latter-day Saint, Cathy Swendsen. "People [will be able to] understand that we have a faith that is based in Jesus Christ."

Sarah Gossling, who attended the temple dedication, said the experience gives her a starting point from which to tell others about how much the temple means to her. "It makes it so much easier to talk to my friends and acquaintances all about the temple and my beliefs."

A choir composed of Latter-day Saints from within the temple district sang Church hymns for the dedication and cornerstone ceremony.

The exterior of the three-story, 33,000-square-foot temple features gray granite from China. The building stands 35 meters tall and is crowned with a 3-meter gilded statue of the angel Moroni, who is significant to Latter-day Saints for his role in the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The temple will serve 25,000 Latter-day Saints in the district, which includes Calgary and the surrounding communities from Banff in the west to Drumheller in the east.

The dedication was preceded by a cultural celebration featuring music and dance by the Canadian youth of the Church in the Stampede Corral Saturday evening.

More than 100,000 visitors toured the temple during the three-week public open house from 29 September through 20 October 2012.

The Calgary Temple is the eighth in Canada. There are also temples in Cardston, Edmonton, Vancouver, Regina, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. A ninth Canadian temple has been announced for Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Marvin Goldstein and Vanessa Joy Share Talents at December Benefit Concert

The talented and spirited entertainers Marvin Goldstein and Vanessa Joy will present a concert of popular and holiday music—all as part of a special benefit event. Sponsored by Writers Unite to Fight Cancer, the concert will benefit Serena, a young woman with Stage III astrocytoma-glioma (brain tumor).

"I am elated that I get to participate," Vanessa says. "I live right here in Arizona, and I am thrilled to be able to donate my time, energy and voice for these events. My heart goes out to Serena and others in need and singing is one way I am able to contribute. I truly hope that we will be able to raise a lot of money for this great cause."

Vanessa Joy is an award-winning vocalist and theatrical performer. She earned a degree in music from Brigham Young University, where she performed with Showtime Tour Company. Vanessa has performed around the United States and in Israel, Jordan, Italy, Greece and Turkey and for the USO at the Wounded Warriors Center in Germany. She recently released two solo albums: "The Voice" and "Sweet By and By."

Marvin, a highly acclaimed pianist, began musical training at age 9. At 18, he was awarded a music scholarship to Tel Aviv University School of Music in Israel. He continued his formal training at the "Mozarteum" of Salzburg, Austria and received bachelor's and master's degrees in music at Florida State University. Marvin has recorded over 40 CDs, including popular music, patriotic melodies, show tunes, sacred music and love songs.

The benefit concert will be Dec. 12 at My First Piano Studio (1818 E. Southern Ave. in Mesa). Tickets are available for the pre-show meet and greet at 6:30 p.m. with Marvin and Vanessa plus concert ($40) or for the concert only starting at 7:30 are ($30). Tickets can be purchased at http://writersunitetofightcancer.com/events. For more information, email Margaret Turley at writersunitetofightcancer@gmail.com or call 480-586-7902.

New Book Shares True Stories
Continued from pg. 42

Another story, titled "For Choices," by Kara Clark, tells how: "When a fun vacation with friends turns into a nightmare of peer pressure, Kara finds the courage to flee like Joseph of Egypt." The author portrays the dilemma of her choice, as she writes: "'Heavenly Father, what should I do? What can I do?' I pray silently. The answer comes like a punch to my gut. 'Leave.'"

The sisters gathered the stories by "email, snail mail, and face-to-face meetings," says Marilyn. It took them 10 months to collect and edit all the stories.

The book includes stories from 35 authors, four from Arizona: Bailey Eaton and Beth Beach are members of Maricopa Arizona Stake, Cindy R. Williams is from Gilbert and Debra Erfert is from Yuma.

Values Stories for a Young Woman is available at Deseret Book, Seagull Book, Amazon.com, Deseret Book.com and Barnes and Noble (BN.com). It also can be purchased at www.latterdaylightbooks.com.

For more about the book, go to Walnutspringspress.blogspot.com,

Martaosmith.blogspot.com or Brighamdistributing.com.

Mesa Arizona Temple Light Display
Continued from pg. 43

Hobbs, who is directing the placement of the lights for the ninth year, says, in addition to the hundreds of thousands of colorful lights, there are outdoor displays, including a large nativity exhibit and displays showing Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem; a shepherd with his sheep and the Biblical prophet Isaiah, who prophesied of Christ's birth. Recorded messages are available in Spanish and English.

Also inside the Visitors' Center is a Christus statue, a 13-foot marble replica of the original Christus sculpture, as well as audiovisual presentations, exhibits, films and dioramas that include "God's Plan for His Family." The Visitors' Center is open daily during the Christmas lights event from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and there no admission fee and no charge for any of the exhibits.

The Mesa Temple Garden Lights opens to the public Friday, November 23, and the lights will be turned on from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. every night through January 1, 2013.

Outside, on the north side of the Visitors' Center, free holiday concerts, with different performers each night, will be offered beginning on December 1 and running through December 25. Each concert begins at 7 p.m. and will last about 30 minutes. Because of limited space, early seating is recommended.

Photo by Richard Webb

Thousands are drawn to the Mesa Temple gardens to enjoy the sights, sounds and spirit and to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Among the concert performers will be Rob Gardner and the Spire Choir, Mesa High School A Capella Choir, Westwood High School Honor Choir, Firefly—the Merchant Sisters, Chandler Children's Choir, the St. Anne's Catholic Church and Gilbert Stake Choir, and Grace United Methodist Church Chancel Choir and Canterbury Bells. Also appearing will be Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix, Vanessa Joy and Marvin Goldstein, the Tyler and Linsey Maxson family and the Michele and Sterling Baer family.

"We are thrilled to be able to share the event with the community again this year and we welcome all that choose to celebrate the spirit of the Christmas season with us," says David E. LeSueur, LDS Church Area Authority, a member of the Sixth Quorum of the Seventy.

For more information, call the Mesa Temple Visitors' Center at 480.964.7164 or visit the event website at www.mesachristmaslights.com.

Performers Needed for Christmas Season

Every year during the Christmas season, music is provided at the Mesa main post office, thanks to Beehive business manager, Linda Kay Hartmann.

"I assign musicians to perform at the post office in the days leading up to Christmas," Linda says.

"The performers play free of charge for people who are waiting in line to mail their cards and packages. We have found that cheerful music adds to the feeling of Christmas and lightens the spirits of those waiting," she says.

In the past, performances at the post office at 135 N. Center St. in Mesa have come from vocal soloists and groups, harpists, dancers, pianists, flutists, a capella groups, children groups, guitarists and jazz ensembles.

"Small groups, numbering from 1 to 20 people are actually the best," Linda says.

Each performer is scheduled for a half-hour to two-hour segment. An electric piano is provided. Some groups bring their own background music; others have instruments backing them up.

To fill the slots for the coming Christmas season, Linda is scheduling musicians for December 8 through 22 between 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays and 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

If you or someone you know would like to participate, contact Linda at 480-844-9328 or by emailing azbeehivesales@gmail.com.

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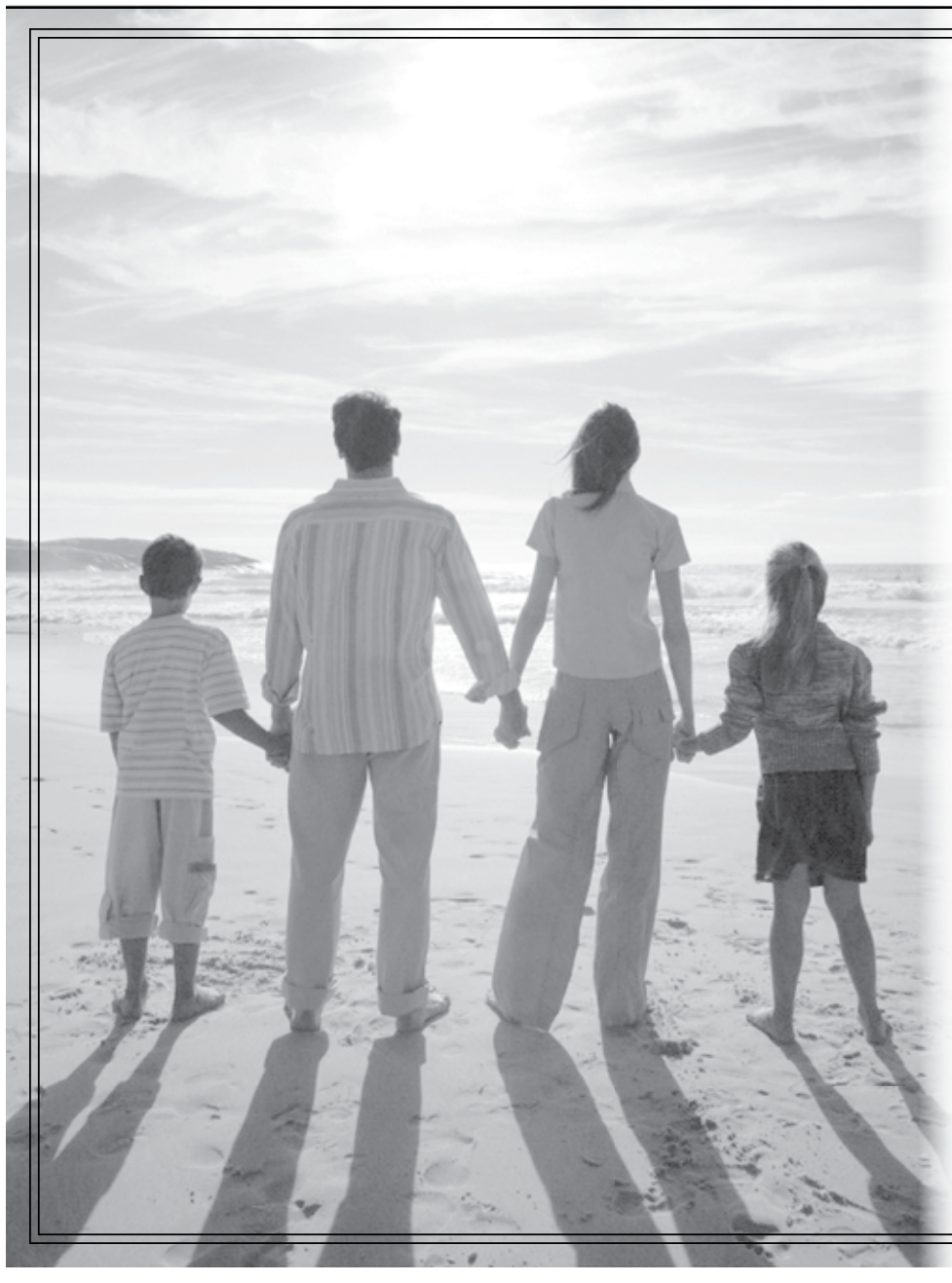

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